



Chicago, Ill., January, 1910.

The Annual Meeting.

The seventy-sixth annual business meeting of the church was held on the evening of Wednesday, January 12, 1910. In spite of the blizzard that was raging, a large number of the members of the church were present. On motion of Mr. J. P. Ahrens, the Pastor, Dr. deBlois, was elected chairman. The report of the nominating committee was read by its chairman, Mr. M. J. Piercey. In accordance with its recommendations, the following officers were balloted for and elected:

CHURCH OFFICERS.

Deacons for Three Years.

S. T. Foster
C. H. Holman

D. R. Leland
William Wigney

Deacons for One Year.

Robert Ellis

Dr. C. G. Lumley

Trustees.

Robert N. Clarke
T. E. Donnelley
B. C. Lingle
J. Gorton Marsh
C. H. Marshall

M. J. Piercey
C. R. Stouffer
H. W. Tomlinson
R. B. Twiss
Clifford H. Williams

J. H. Wrenn

Treasurer.

Robert N. Clarke

Pastor's Aids.

Mrs. F. C. Arnold
Mrs. H. F. Goggins
Mrs. Eliza Harvey

Mrs. S. B. Lingle
Mrs. M. J. Perkins
Mrs. Wm. Wigney
Mrs. Clifford Williams.

Church Clerk.

W. B. Nichols

T. R. Ridley, Asst.

Library Committee.

Miss Leila M. Ahrens

S. E. Lingle

Mrs. W. S. Baird

Mrs. W. E. Smith

C. H. Stone

Baptismal Committee.

J. W. Bilton

Miss Clara Stowell

Mrs. S. B. Lingle

Mrs. Erick Strandberg

Miss Mary Marx

M. V. Wagner

Raymond Chapel Committee.

Mrs. R. R. Donnelley

B. C. Lingle

F. H. Hackendahl

Archibald McIntyre

C. H. Holman

O. F. Olsen

E. L. Kelley

W. R. Raymond

E. C. Spinney

Auditing Committee.

H. J. Hale

W. H. Vallette

SUNDAY-SCHOOL OFFICERS.

Superintendent—Edmund C. Spinney.

Assistant Superintendents—E. L. Kelley, Dr.
C. G. Lumley.

Secretary—John Reid.

Treasurer—Charles H. Stone.

Librarian—William H. Craig.

Assistant Librarian—Adrian Webster.

The Report of the Pastor

The First Baptist Church of Chicago:

Dear Friends and Co-workers,

I submit to you herewith my seventh annual report, together with the reports of the various societies and enterprises which are affiliated with our church organization.

The year has passed quickly and each day has brought its burdens and its opportunities. I have been with some of you on occasions of joy, with some in hours of deep sorrow, with some in times of uncertainty and perplexity, during the year that has just closed. As the years pass I appreciate ever more highly the privilege of serving you as pastor and friend, in every way that I can. As day by day I take counsel with some of you concerning the interests of the Kingdom of Christ and his church, so daily do I remember you all in earnest prayer to the Giver of all Good.

"Within the Veil."

The angel of death has been busy in our midst. Many have heard his summons to the life immortal. Sixteen of our members have passed away: Mrs. E. J. Richardson, Charles E. Whitmore, Miss Carrie Garnett, Murdock Morrison, Wilbur F. Behel, Miss Grace Sabin, Mrs. Monroe Heath, Mrs. W. M. Haigh, Lyman O. Tomlinson, Dr. F. B. Ives, William Webster, Thomas Linden, Mrs. Wiermann, Mrs. Amelia C. Blackman, Mrs. Martha Paxton and Mrs. James D. Robertson. Not in seventeen years has the annual memorial record of the church been so large.

Mr. Whitmore had served at different times as deacon, Sunday-school superintendent and treasurer. His was a vitalizing personality, and the influence of his ceaseless labors in behalf of our church will long continue. Mrs. Heath, the widow of Monroe Heath, Esq., a former mayor of the city of Chicago, was noble in her benefactions as she was sweet and lovely in her life. Mrs. Haigh, who with her husband, the late Rev. Dr. William M. Haigh, united with our church many years ago, was a woman of remarkable ability and devotion.

Amongst the younger members John Linden and William Webster were beloved for the purity and earnestness of their Christian characters. Miss Garnett had been a faithful follower of the Master for more than forty years. Miss Sabin had consecrated her young life to the highest ideals. Dr. Ives was widely known for his Christian zeal and died "full of years and honors." Mr. L. O. Tomlinson and Mr. W. F. Behel suffered long months of weariness and pain, but were cheered and comforted by the spirit of Him whom they had served so well. Mr. Morrison and Mrs. Richardson had seldom met with us in recent years, but we are assured of their Christian faith.

Mrs. Wiermann was an energetic worker in the Raymond field. Toward the close of the year, in late December, three of our members were taken from us. The attendance at our Sabbath worship of Mrs. Blackman and Mrs. Paxton was never the transaction of a mere formal duty. They were always in their place because they loved all things that were good and beautiful and true. Genuinely loyal to the cause of

Christ their presence will be sorely missed. Mrs. Robertson was known in the church in other days, but a severe affection had prevented her from meeting with us recently.

We rejoice that these dear brothers and sisters, who have gone forever from our earthly vision, have entered into rest in "full assurance of faith," and "in sure hope of a glorious immortality."

The Membership List.

In spite of the large number of deaths the report of the church clerk shows a net gain in membership during the year of twenty-two. It shows also that the number received by letter is the same as the number dismissed by letter. This is unusual. If you take the trouble to examine the minutes of the Chicago Association for last year you will notice that every one of the ten largest Baptist churches of our city dismissed a larger number of members than were received by letter. For instance, one church received twenty and dismissed twenty-seven; one received thirty-nine and dismissed forty-nine; one received eleven and dismissed twenty-two; one received thirty-six and dismissed sixty-three. That we held our own during the year 1909 in this respect is an encouraging fact.

Amongst those who joined our church by baptism and letter were eleven young men. There are now twenty-eight boys and young men who are active members of our church. Nearly all of these are between the ages of seventeen and twenty-two. I do not include in this number those who are away at school, nor those who, although members of the church, seldom attend and show no interest in the work. It is one of the most hopeful facts in connection with the outlook of our church upon the future that we should have this large company of sturdy and earnest Christian young men definitely affiliated with us.

The Sunday-School.

The reports from our Home Sunday-school indicate a healthy condition of life in all departments, under the direction of our noble superintendent, Dr. Spinney. Some of the incidents in the progress of the year deserve particular notice.

1. The number of pupils who have united with the church has been exceptionally large. The reports submitted show that more of the young people of the Sunday-school have united with the church during 1909 than during any other of the previous nine years. More have joined the church during the past three years than during the six previous years. These gratifying facts clearly affirm the concentration of effort and consecration of spirit on the part of the teachers.

2. Not only so. The increase referred to is an emphatic endorsement of the plan, introduced three years ago, for the holding of prayer meetings. At these meetings of prayer and consultation the spiritual interests of the scholars has been especially considered by the pastor and teachers, and direct personal work with individuals has been done by those who have coöperated in the plan. Last winter, as in the two previous years, the establishment of

these meetings resulted almost immediately in additions to the church from the school.

3. A new feature in the policy of the Sunday-school administration has been the establishment of regular Friday evening conferences for the teachers, officers and workers. Those who have attended these meetings speak enthusiastically of their practical value. The number present week by week has been altogether too small, however, considering the importance of the subjects considered. The highest welfare of the school demands a more cordial and unanimous support of these meetings, and I hope that ways may soon be devised for securing a much larger attendance.

4. Another new departure was the public installation service which was held at the beginning of the year. In the auditorium of the church, at the regular hour of morning worship, the church and Sunday-school met together for the public recognition of the new officers. The occasion was impressive and significant. Every such service if conducted with spirit and success, has the effect of bringing into more intimate fellowship the two organizations.

5. The teachers' training class, under the direction of Mrs. Wigney, closes its first full year of work with vigor unabated. The great value of this class is beyond question, and its influence will be felt in a positive way throughout the entire school when its graduates take their places as teachers.

6. The organization of a Junior Department some time ago was thought by some to be a doubtful experiment. Today this department is widely recognized as fully equal in importance to any in the school. For the splendid results which have been attained great credit should be given to the tireless devotion of Mrs. A. E. Thomas and Mrs. McCullough, as well as to Mrs. Foster and others. We have now four well defined and wide-awake departments, besides the Bible classes.

6. Those who have been watching the development of the classes for older scholars have been gratified to see the evidences of increasing loyalty and interest. Several classes have recently organized and the most of these hold social and other gatherings from time to time, in addition to the regular sessions on Sunday. The classes now definitely organized are as follows:

Men's League: President, E. L. Kelley; teacher, Mr. C. R. Stouffer.

The Judson Class: President, Rollin Coleman; teacher, Mrs. R. F. Bennett.

Korner Klass: President, Don Tompson; teacher, Mr. Robert C. Leland.

Plus Ultra Class: President, James Shane; teacher, Mr. S. T. Foster.

These classes for men, young men and boys, are all alert and in good working condition. The Adult Bible Class, so long and so admirably conducted by Deacon J. P. Ahrens, is not, I believe, definitely organized; but it deserves especial mention now and always, because of its position of superior strength in the life of the school.

The Church Organizations.

The reports of the various societies indicate a goodly degree of prosperity. Their multifarious activities in the cause of Christ and the church deserve the prayers and interest of all of us.

These reports which they now make to you through the pastor should be carefully read and pondered. They indicate a wideness of effort and devotion of spirit which are admirable.

Raymond Chapel.

The outlook on the Raymond field was frankly discouraging during the spring and summer months. Few of us realize how many of the former stalwart workers in our mission have moved away or been called to the higher service. Mr. and Mrs. Austermell, Mr. and Mrs. Coyle, Mr. Harry Williamson, Mr. Cassius Williamson, Miss Jessie Lindley, Miss Mason, Mr. Arthur Rhenisch and Mr. Russell King were amongst the leaders in the activities at Raymond some five or six years ago. They have every one gone. Few helpers have been raised up to take their places. Frequently half or more than half the baptisms at the home church were from the Raymond district. In the last two or three years we have had hardly any baptisms from that field.

The preaching services and prayer meetings were carried forward by Rev. E. L. Kelley until the first of October. He won the hearts of the people, and his preaching was highly appreciated. According to the terms of his agreement with the church, however, his many urgent duties elsewhere prevented his giving very much time to special efforts on the field. As a matter of fact he went far beyond the letter of his agreement in the duties he performed.

After his resignation the Mission Committee, with the pastor, sought a man to take his place. After numerous conferences with professors and officers of the Divinity School an arrangement was made, which promises to be advantageous to the Raymond work. By virtue of this arrangement three young men from the Divinity School, Rev. A. R. Morgan, Mr. D. O. True and Mr. A. A. Holtz, will devote a portion of their time to labor on the field. Mr. Morgan will assist in the afternoon Sunday-school, preach on Sunday evening, conduct the prayer meeting, help in the men's league, and give one day of every week to visitation. He will also teach in the Home Sunday-school and assist in the services on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening.

The other two men will aid in the Raymond Sunday-school, visit on the field, and undertake such other activities as seem advisable amongst the men, young men and boys of the neighborhood. One half of the salaries of the three assistants will be paid by our church, and the rest by the Divinity School.

The consummation of this admirable arrangement is due chiefly to the able leadership of Mr. Bowman Lingle, chairman of the Raymond Committee, and to the courtesy of Dean Mathews and Dr. Allen Hoben of the University.

The coming year will be one of crucial importance. We have a splendid building, well adapted to all forms of institutional work. The building and lot, worth altogether about \$11,000, are owned by the church, and are absolutely free of incumbrance. The Industrial School, conducted by Mrs. Wigney and her helpers, and the Girls' Guild, under Miss Elizabeth Lingle's supervision, are prospering notably. Mrs. Page will do considerable visitation and will hold Mothers' Meetings. Mr. Humphrey has been exceedingly faithful in his superintendency of the

Sunday-school. With such a powerful force of workers I feel sure that we will be able to conquer the problem of the Raymond field.

Results of the Gipsy Smith Meetings.

Many will be curious to know the practical results of the great gatherings recently held in the Armory.

In the first place let us bear in mind the significance of this big revival meeting. It was not a union of two churches or ten. It was the hearty coöperative undertaking of hundreds of churches. This in itself was a splendid heralding forth of the essential unity and spiritual fellowship of our evangelical churches. If nothing more had been accomplished the object lesson this afforded would have been worth the labor and time expended.

But more was accomplished. The thrill produced by 1,000 voices, fine voices, trained and powerful, singing together the songs of Zion, was electric, magnetic, inflaming. Those who were present night after night seemed to be lifted above all earthly sights and sounds.

Never before have so great a number of churches in our city joined in a revival. Never before has such a chorus-choir been heard.

Under the irresistible influence of the singing hundreds, the praying thousands and the sweet and sympathetic pleadings of the noble and simple-hearted gipsy, great numbers of the people indicated their desire to follow Jesus Christ. The names of these were turned over to the various churches.

We received about sixty names. This is more than most of the churches received. We have followed them up most carefully. The people have been seen, talked with, pleaded with, prayed with.

I am sorry to say that our experience has been similar to that of other churches. The practical results have been distinctly disappointing.

Nine of the names were those of colored people, who were already in attendance on, and in nearly every case members of colored churches.

Four were "transients" who had already left the address given on the cards, or had given wrong addresses and could not be found.

Six belonged to families connected, now or in the past, with churches of other denominations. The parents were unwilling that their children should join a church of any other denomination than their own. Five were little children who had come forward under a general impulse and understood nothing of the meaning of the step they had taken.

Three were earnest Christians, members of other churches, but who prefer to attend our services.

Four were members "in good and regular standing" in our own church.

Six were unpromising cases. The enthusiasm of the meetings had departed and an entire indifference had succeeded.

Eight cases we are still working with and we trust that they may yet be brought into the church and undertake a vigorous Christian life.

Seven gave no preference for any church, and their names have just been received, at this late date, from the Consecration Committee. They will be looked up, carefully and thoroughly, as the others have been.

Nine have joined the church as a direct result

of the meetings. Five or six of these are little girls belonging to the Sunday-school, whose teachers in most cases have been working with them for quite a long time. Two or three of them stated that they had been Christians at heart for a year or more.

Although the positive results have been so meager we must remember that the great city, with the exception of a few districts near the Armory, was utterly untouched. The vast majority of the people who attended were already Christians.

Also we must bear in mind the uplifting and beautiful character of the meetings themselves. Those who attended ought never to forget the enthusiasms generated at that time.

I am glad that our own people who were present have shown a strong desire to be known henceforth as soul-winners. Let us all pray that many may be definitely won to Christ, through our Christian Endeavor work and in other ways, during the months just before us.

The Finances.

That the finances of the church are in such excellent condition is due to the splendid competency of the treasurer, Mr. Robert N. Clarke, the care and judgment of President Marshall and his associates on the board of trustees, and the willing generosity of a large group of people, "the givers" within the church.

All regular bills of the year have been paid. There is no deficit on the current expense account. This is a remarkable outcome, for at the beginning of the year the prospect was gloomy and perplexing. Our honored treasurer of the previous year, Mr. C. E. Whitmore, had been critically ill for months in a New York hospital. In his absence no subscriptions were taken during December, as our custom is, so the matter was delayed until January. No weekly offering envelopes had been provided for the new year; these were not distributed until about the first of February. Other embarrassments were connected with the situation.

In face of all these initial difficulties the issue at the year's close is most gratifying.

Weekly Offerings.

The amount received from pew rentals is less than in 1908. It is probable that each year will show a further decrease, as the weekly offering system is more strongly urged and its value more clearly understood. The amount contributed through the envelopes, both for church expenses and for beneficence is slightly greater than in the preceding year.

It was in 1891 that the weekly offering system was adopted in this church. The following exhibit indicates the amount contributed through this medium for church support, in each of these nineteen years:

1891.....	\$1065
1892.....	1804
1893.....	1555
1894.....	1100
1895.....	1722
1896.....	1522
1897.....	1798
1898.....	1682
1899.....	1372
1900.....	1222
1901.....	1242

1902.....	837
1903.....	1883
1904.....	1636
1905.....	2133
1906.....	3128
1907.....	3391
1908.....	3225
1909.....	3300

This statement shows that the emphasis put upon the importance of the method of weekly giving has not been in vain. The amount contributed in 1909 was greater than in any other year of the nineteen, except 1907, when the total was \$91 more.

The introduction of the so-called Duplex System, and the inclusion of the pledge for beneficence with that for church support, has not caused the reduction of the amount contributed to the current expenses of the church, as some feared that it might.

On the other hand the adoption of the envelope system for beneficence has increased our gifts to foreign missions, home missions, and the various other objects to which we contribute. I do not feel satisfied, however, with what we are now doing. It seems to me a mistake to rule out completely all special appeals in the interest of these noble causes. I therefore suggest that we modify our present method in such a way that there may be opportunity for those who are not giving through the regular channel of the weekly offering, or who wish to supplement what they are now doing with an additional gift, to do so.

The Budget.

We may be obliged to adopt not only that plan, but others also, if we are to raise this year the full amount asked of us as our share of the budgets of the Northern Baptist Convention, the Illinois State Convention and the Chicago Baptist Executive Council. The amounts apportioned to our church are as follows:

For Am. Bap. For. Miss. Soc. (N. B. Conv.)	\$1062
For Am. Bap. Home Miss. Soc. (N. B. Conv.)	500
For Am. Bap. Pub. Soc. (N. B. Conv.)	110
For State Missions (Ill. Bap. Conv.)	200
For City Missions (Chic. Bap. Ex. Coun.)	750
Total.....	\$2622

The prestige and influence of this First Church of Chicago, its place of leadership in denominational affairs, and its good name as well, are somewhat intimately involved in this matter. A remark made a few weeks ago by one of the officers of our church impressed me. He said: "If it is a question of painting and decorating the auditorium or raising this budget for missions, I vote for the budget every time." This surely is our plain duty. The budget must be raised. It concerns not merely our example and its effect on other churches, but it concerns primarily the pressing needs of mission fields, and the privilege which Christ offers us of becoming co-laborers with Him in this high endeavor. I hope that all of us may undertake this task as the first and greatest work of our church for the coming year.

The New Financial Plan.

Let me return to the subject of the weekly

offerings. It has long been felt that an effort should be made to reach personally the non-contributing members of our church, and to solicit and urge their coöperation in the way of financial support.

We have had, during the year 1909, 389 contributors, divided as follows: Number renting pews or sitting 142; number taking weekly envelopes 247; total number of members contributing, 389. Some of these have been lax and irregular, as the report of the finance committee indicates. The staunch and regular contributors are between 250 and 300. With a membership of a thousand we should certainly make a better showing than this. It is not a new condition. In the records of the church clerk appears the report of a vigorous speech made by Rev. R. H. Austin, a deacon of the church, at a prayer meeting some fifteen years ago, in which he made the statement that less than 200 of the members contributed in any way whatever to the financial support of the church.

Last autumn your pastor brought before the trustees a plan for the increase of the number of regular contributors, and the re-adjustment of the general scheme of financial administration, to permit a more thorough and direct canvass of the membership for contributions, both to church support and to beneficence.

The trustees, a joint meeting of trustees and deacons, and the church itself, considered the matter, and in every case by formal vote endorsed the plan. The most important change which this plan contemplated was the appointment of a large finance committee, whose members should accept jointly the responsibility of interviewing personally the non-contributing members.

Mr. H. W. Tomlinson is the chairman of this committee and associated with him are some fifteen members of the church, both men and women.

This committee entered upon its duties in November. It is a strong body of workers, and I believe that through its efforts a good many more names will be added to the list of regular contributors. I do not look for any startling immediate results, but if the committee is vigorously led and its work promptly done good results will surely follow. In the case of those who have been non-contributors, the very fact itself indicates in some cases a complete spiritual apathy, in others a lack of appreciation of the moral issue involved and in others an absence of training in the first principles of systematic beneficence and of stewardship. These two last classes ought to be reached by the committee.

Reports of the success of the new plan will be made from time to time through the columns of "Church Life" by Mr. Tomlinson. In the meantime let us remember that every voluntary contributor helps the committee if he makes his subscription promptly, by obviating the necessity of a call upon him at his home or elsewhere.

Repairs and Improvements.

A great work has been quietly done in the complete rehabilitation of our church edifice. Although it was built more than thirty years ago this noble structure is a model of beauty and convenience, both within and without. Few

Protestant churches in this country are more artistic, commodious and magnificent.

The wear and tear of time, however, had wrought havoc in certain directions. The heating system was antiquated. It was liable to collapse at any time. The electric lighting, introduced many years ago, was inadequate and had been condemned by the authorities as unsafe. The roof had been patched and repatched and patched again, until patching no longer availed.

This condition of affairs was carefully considered by the board of trustees, and it was determined by them, and at their recommendation by the church, to take the matter vigorously in hand. It seemed wise to include in the total extra amount to be asked from the members the sum of \$2,000 for current expenses, to obviate the necessity for the regular appeal for deficiency subscriptions.

As a result of the wonderful response to the public plea which was made from the pulpit on the morning of Sunday, April 4, subscriptions aggregating nearly \$9,000 were received. These were made in part by individuals, in part by the various church organizations. Other subscriptions were made afterwards.

Of this amount there had been paid in cash up to December 31, \$6,705.39. Of this \$2,000 was used for current expenses and \$4,705.39 applied on the repairs. Of the balance the treasurer considers that \$1,800 is "good." When this is paid the large total of \$8,500 will have been paid.

The repairs have been carried forward in a thoroughly satisfactory way. A completely new heating plant for the entire church—new boilers, pipes, radiators—has been installed, and will last for a dozen years or more. The new electric lighting system gives us more light than we had before at less cost. The new roof is in perfect condition; this also will probably not trouble us for ten or twelve years to come. The amount spent on repairs, chiefly in connection with the roof and the heating plant, has averaged \$450 for the last nine years, or about \$4,000 altogether. For the next nine years these bills will be very greatly reduced.

The bills still due and unpaid on the repair account amount to \$1,125 more than the subscriptions which are not yet paid but are considered "good." It will be necessary to provide for this balance at an early date. The question of the painting and decorating of the interior of the church must also be considered very soon. The need has become pressing.

The church was built in 1876. Ten years later the entire building was redecorated. That was more than twenty-three years ago. The lecture room, ladies' parlors, halls, etc., were again redecorated four years ago, at an expense of a little less than \$1,000. The auditorium has not been touched in twenty-three years! This amazing fact should give us pause. It is not our business to ask why the work was not done twelve or fourteen years ago, as it certainly should have been. It is our business to ask how it can be done now, consistently with our other obligations and duties. I feel that there is plenty of work ahead for us all!

The Vacant Lot.

In June, 1886, the church purchased fifty feet of land adjoining its property on the south for

\$6,100. The purchase was made in order to prevent the erection upon it of a livery stable. A certain man had made a considerable amount of money by buying lots adjacent to churches, building stables thereon, and thus virtually compelling the churches to buy his property at a high figure in order to be rid of the embarrassment of such an obnoxious nuisance close under the eaves of the sanctuary. This man was negotiating for the lot just south of our church, but by the foresight and prompt action of some First Church members, his contemplated scheme was frustrated, and our church possessed itself of the land.

Two mortgages, aggregating \$6,100, were placed upon the property. One of these was due June 14, 1888, and the other June 14, 1891. The mortgages were renewed from time to time, and the interest, amounting to about \$300 per year, was paid. No effort was made to clear the encumbrance until about four years ago, when Mr. W. E. Smith and others took the matter in hand. Through their faithful efforts, and those of Mr. R. B. Twiss, the church treasurer, the amount was reduced from \$6,100 to about \$4,800.

During the past year the matter of the sale of the lot was thoroughly discussed. It was finally decided by the church to empower the trustees to find a purchaser, if possible. This they did; the lot has been sold; and the mortgages cancelled.

Since the day when the land was purchased slightly more than \$7,000 has been paid in interest on the mortgages. Now, for the first time in more than twenty-three years we have no mortgage indebtedness, and we are relieved for all future time of the recurring interest charges of some \$300 a year. Careful provision has been made in the deed of transfer, guarding against any improper use of the property.

Outside Work.

The demands of the First Church field have been so great that I have had little time to respond to the multitude of calls for lectures, sermons and addresses, which come from other parts of the city and from various parts of the country. The pastorate of a church such as ours involves a large duty to the denomination and to the public which it is not easy to avoid.

I have regarded the local work, within the church itself, however, as the supreme task, and, during the past year especially, have concentrated all of my energies here.

A few outside addresses have been given. I was invited to speak before the Ohio State Convention on "Our Baptist Heritage," before the Indiana State Convention on "The Message for the Modern Church," and on "The Awakening of the Orient," before the Michigan State Convention on "Christian Education," before the Illinois State Convention on "The Baptist Brotherhood and its Possibilities," and before the Iowa State Convention, on "Twentieth Century Missions."

All of these invitations except one I accepted, and it gave me an excellent opportunity to speak to great and representative audiences on vital and most important themes. So with the other engagements of the year. Where there has seemed an opportunity for speaking a message that should "reach far" I have gladly responded.

CHURCH LIFE

Such an opportunity was provided in the invitation to deliver a series of lectures on "Problems of Modern Missions," at Brandon, Manitoba, on the occasion of a conference of pastors and leaders who had come together from all over western Canada.

"The Standard"

Early in the year a favorable arrangement was made with "The Standard," by which, on condition of our subscribing for 100 copies, we would receive them at the annual rate of \$1.00 per copy, one-half of the regular rate. In response to my public statement of this offer enough money was subscribed by members of the church, in amounts ranging all the way from \$10 down to 50 cents, to make it possible for us to enter into the agreement indicated. By this means 100 copies of this great religious periodical have been on hand for distribution every Sunday. This plan has had a distinctly educational influence in the life of the church.

The Church History.

There is now in the hands of the printer a history of the First Church, covering the period from the beginning of Baptist effort in Chicago in 1827, to the present time. It has been written by our Senior deacon, our beloved friend, Edward Goodman. It will be read with interest by a wide circle of members and former members.

The Kindergarten.

The work of this new branch of activity is described in Mrs. Googins' report. In the early summer I laid the matter of a kindergarten before the Pastor's Aids, and efforts were made to inaugurate one. Then the vacation period intervened and the question was held over until September. Through the efficient labors of half a dozen of the ladies it has been possible to supplement the generous legacy of Mrs. Heath, which so unexpectedly came to us, with subscriptions sufficient to cover the entire cost of maintenance for the next two years. So the work is at once established upon a permanent basis. I am sure that it will so justify itself that at the end of the two years all subscriptions will be renewed and new ones received for an indefinite time. The mothers' meetings and other forms of social activity will be productive of untold blessing.

The New Year.

We enter upon the year 1910 united and hopeful. The Master stands ready to help us, to give to our eye clearness of vision, and to our right arm strength for service. Nothing inspires the true Christian to nobler effort than the consciousness of the Saviour's presence, the promise of His personal fellowship and the certainty of success under His divine guidance.

God has rich blessings in store for our church, but He also expects great things of us. What shall be our response to his call this coming year? I implore you all to unite with me in unceasing prayer to Him that it may be a year of powerful achievement.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Austen K. de Blois, Pastor.

CLERK'S REPORT.

The additions and losses from January 1, 1909, to January 1, 1910, are as follows:

Additions.	
By baptism	36
By letter	22
By experience	8
By restoration	1
Total	67

Losses.	
By letter	22
By death	16
By dropping	5
By exclusion	2
Total	45

Net gain	22
Total membership January 1, 1910.....	1060
W. B. Nichols, Clerk.	

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Receipts for Current Expenses and Repair Fund.

Cash on hand January 1, 1909.....	\$ 7.97
Weekly offerings	3,300.37
Special subscription and contributions..	2,507.11
Pew rents	3,675.65
Basket collections	756.70
Church repair and general ex- fund....	4,705.39
Deficit from "1908"	12.23

Total

\$14,965.42

Receipts "Benevolences."

Foreign missions	\$ 445.00
Home missions	280.00
State missions	130.00
City missions	87.50
Am. Bap. Pub. Soc.	62.50
Chicago Baptist Hospital	62.50
Chicago Bap. Orphanage	62.50
Aged Ministers	37.50
Ministerial Education	25.00
Chicago Tract Society	25.00
Anti-Saloon League	25.00
Pacific Garden Mission (W. O., \$25 Wm. Wigney, \$5)	30.00
Colored Bap College, Macon, Mo.....	20.00
Hebrew Christian Mission, Brooklyn, N. Y.	10.00
Bal. on hand "undesignated"	20.00

Total

\$ 1,360.00

Miscellaneous Accounts.

Ill. Trust and Sav. Bank (Mort. fund)	255.92
Sale of lot	5,000.00
South Side State Bank, "Mrs. Julia Heath fund"	500.00
Ill. Trust and Sav. Bank "Drake fund"	624.89
Interest from Pope Memorial	25.00
Raymond Chapel	97.61
Kindergarten fund	20.00

Total

\$ 6,523.42

Special Contribution.

Illinois Young Men's Christian Assoc. ...	\$ 10.00
The Regions Beyond Miss. Union.....	17.04

Total

\$ 27.04

\$22,875.88

CHURCH LIFE

Disbursements for Current Expense.

Pastor's salary	\$ 5,000.00
Church Visitor, 8 mos.	336.40
Music (choir)	2,085.17
Janitor	720.00
Pulpit supplies	115.00
Lighting and heating	763.01
Printing and postage	99.96
Vacuum cleaner	100.00
1910 and 1909 weekly envelopes.....	76.19
Hotel, church directory	15.00
Insurance	150.00
Auditing books "1908"	63.00
Interest on first and second mortgages	219.00
Expense in settling mort. on lot.....	150.00
Sunday-school bills	220.83
Raymond Chapel	40.00
Sunday-school	15.00
Church minutes	15.00
Chicago Baptist Association	15.00
Assessment and taxes Highland Pk lot	32.40
Paid on acct. church repairs.....	4,705.39

Total	\$14,936.35
Bal. on hand Dec. 31, 1909	29.07
Total on hand and disbursed	\$14,965.42
Disbursements, forward	\$14,965.42

Account Benevolences.

Foreign missions	\$ 445.00
Home missions	280.00
State missions	130.00
City missions	87.50
Am. Bap Pub. Society	62.50
Chicago Baptist Hospital	62.50
Chicago Bap. Orphanage	62.50
Aged Ministers	62.50
Ministerial Education	37.50
Chicago Tract Society	25.10
Anti-Saloon League	25.00
Pacific Garden Mission	30.00
Colored Bap. College, Macon, Mo.....	20.00
Hebrew Christian Miss. Brooklyn, N. Y.	10.00
Total	\$ 1,340.00

Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1909 undesig- nated	20.00
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Miscellaneous Accounts.

Dep'd South Side State Bank, Mrs. Julia Heath fund	\$ 500.00
Dep'd Ill. Trust & Sav. Bank, Drake fd	624.89
Pope Mem. fund, int. to S. S.	25.00
Dep'd Mths. Loan & Trust C. Kinder- garten fund	20.00
Raymond Chapel	97.61
Int. and exp. settling mortgage.....	255.92
Paid off mortgage on lot	5,000.00
Total	\$ 6,523.42

Special Contributions.

Ill. Young Men's Christian Assoc.....	10.00
The Regions Beyond Miss. Union.....	17.04
Total	\$ 27.04

Grand total on hand and disbursed....\$22,875.88

Assets and Liabilities.

Cash acct. general fund	\$ 29.07
Cash acct. benevolences	20.00
Cash acct. Kindergarten fund.....	20.00
Total	\$ 1,124.89

Cash Ill. Trust & Savings Bank Drake fund	\$ 69.07
Cash South Side State Bank, Mrs. Julia Heath fund	624.84
Total	\$ 1,124.89

Accounts Receivable.

Pew rents "good"	\$ 260.00
Weekly pledges, "good"	75.00
Subscriptions to church repairs and gen. exp. fund	1,800.00
Total	\$ 2,135.00

Accounts Payable.

Church repairs:	
Gas fitting	\$ 89.00
Bal. on electric fixtures	385.93
Bal. on steam heating plant.....	1,550.00
Bal. on electric wiring	400.00
Bal. on roofing	500.00
Total	\$ 2,925.02
Robert N. Clarke, Treas.	

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES.

The following statement indicates the total amounts which passed through the church treasury and the treasuries of the various organizations during the year. It shows also certain amounts contributed to charitable or other purposes by members of the church, and reported to the church treasurer, but not included in his report, as the money itself did not pass through his hands:

Church treasury for all purposes.....	\$22,875.88
Ladies' Benevolent Society	2,950.29
Individual contributions to missions, etc	1,062.00
Raymond Chapel Committee	908.67
Woman's Mission Circle	766.44
Sunday-school	660.43
Raymond Sunday-school	97.68
Amount Henson Guild	42.82
Total	\$20,364.21

Deduct amts counted twice, repair fund etc.	2,830.00
Total expenditures	\$26,534.21

REPORT OF CHURCH AND SUNDAY-SCHOOL VISITOR.

From May. 5 to December, 1909

It is just eight months since I began my work in this church. I began it with fear and trembling, as the work was rather new to me. I want to speak a word of appreciation of the sympathy and great kindness I have received from every one in connection with my work. During this time 1,451 calls have been made on the members of the church, Sunday-school and congregation. Several of these have been new families. In every home I have been most kindly and gra-

ciously received. 160 devotional meetings have been attended; nine committee meetings; five have been to Raymond Mission Pastor's Aid. Have been to Industrial School nine five times, also at the Industrial School nine five times. Clothing has been given for my disposal to those needing it, and in visiting I have found many families where this clothing has been much appreciated. This work has been a rich spiritual blessing in my own life.

Ellen J. Simpson.

CHURCH FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The church recently elected a finance committee, the object being for it to devise ways and means whereby the finances of the church could be kept upon such a basis that no more public appeals would be necessary from the pulpit, and the pastor has asked me, as chairman of this committee, to explain how we propose to accomplish this.

The committee considered the various methods of bringing the subject home to members of the church, such as publishing reports of receipts and expenditures regularly; special appeals from the pulpit; employment of a paid solicitor; the sending out of circular letters, and the method of individual personal solicitation. As most of the other methods have been tried with varying success it was finally concluded to try the last named method, as that has seemed to give the best results, but before the committee actively begins its reports, it was thought best to allow sufficient time for the members to voluntarily place themselves on record as contributors, either by taking a pew or sittings, or through the weekly envelope system.

The first step in the committee's work will be to acquaint the members with a knowledge of the situation in order that each one may form some idea of what is his or her rightful share. We believe there are many who actually do not know how much is their portion, or what is expected of them in the way of contributing toward the support of the church.

Upon investigation of the treasurer's books it is apparent that a great many have come to the conclusion that the church will somehow or in some mysterious way run itself without their support, or that five cents a week is the proper amount to satisfy their covenant obligation which is to contribute towards the support of the church, "as the Lord has prospered them." Perhaps there are those to whom five cents per week is as large in proportion as a much greater sum from others and, if so, this is all that they ought to give and no word of criticism is intended for those who honestly cannot afford to give liberally. But from the figures as reported from the treasurer's books we are forced to the conclusion that in the past there have been many members who, abundantly able to give, have neglected their duties in this respect.

The reports for the last five years, from 1904 to 1908 inclusive, show an average total receipts of \$14,930, say \$15,000 in round numbers. Of this amount something less than \$2,000 has been for benevolence, leaving \$13,000 for current expense. (This last year and next year we will need more than this on account of the extensive repairs made and still being made as reported in the last issue of Church Life.)

Who contributed this \$15,000?

A careful study of the situation shows that we have an enrolled membership of something more than one thousand names. Of these 770 are resident in the city and live within approximately half an hour's travel of the church.

One hundred and one live in the city, but at considerable distance, and so cannot be counted upon to attend with any degree of regularity.

About sixty members live in the suburbs and 125 live in other cities or foreign countries.

Our average attendance at communion is from 250 to 300, or from one-fourth to one-third of the enrolled membership. About 142 may be considered pew holders, that is, counting in the members of a family where the head of the family rents a pew. While 142 may be considered as contributing through pew rents, only about eighty bills are sent out each month.

During the last year 247 made subscriptions to be paid through the weekly envelopes. Of these, twenty have not given at all, ten have recalled their subscriptions, and forty-seven are very irregular. Deducting these seventy-seven from the 247 leaves 170 actual contributors through the weekly envelope system. This makes the total between 250 to 300 of our members who are shown on the treasurer's books as contributing to the support of the church. That is, only one-fourth to one-third of the total membership.

While many may be contributing in such ways that their names do not appear on the treasurer's books, we feel that this condition of affairs must be remedied and our motto for the year 1910 is, "Every Church Member a Giver and a Helper, in Christ's name, for Christ's cause."

We shall wait until after the first of the year in order to give every member an opportunity to place himself on record as to his intentions. We hope that a great many will contribute through the weekly envelope system, and if one does not feel justified in pledging a certain regular amount we recommend that he take the package of envelopes and contribute each week as much as he is able. As soon as the burden is proportionately distributed throughout the church membership, we hope that the subject of finance will never have to make its appearance again in our public meetings, and this desired end would be accomplished immediately if each one would promptly do his duty. We wish no one to feel that he will be criticized for not giving if he is not able to, or for giving only a small amount, but what we do desire is, that each one shall contribute something "as he has been prospered."

The committee would be very grateful for any suggestions, or will receive in strict confidence any explanations that may be deemed necessary for not contributing, and, in closing, would state that all of the work of our committee is being carried on without publicity and that no member of the committee knows the amount of the contribution of any one, a simple check mark being placed opposite the name to distinguish the contributors from the non-contributors—it being felt that the size of the contribution is strictly a matter between the member and his conscience, and should not be a subject for criticism or discussion in the committee.

Below is a list of the members of the committee, to anyone of whom subscriptions or pledges for the following year may be given, and in making up the amount which you feel that you can give for the coming year, will you not set aside some definite portion of your income. If not a tithe, say 5 per cent, or perhaps a good gauge would be to give to church support as much as you spend for pleasure during the year, or even one-half as much.

Finance Committee.

Rev. Austen K. deBlois, ex-officio; Chas. H. Marshall, ex-officio; R. N. Clarke, ex-officio; Webster Tomlinson, chairman; J. Gorton Marsh, Mrs. R. R. Donnelley, Miss Leila Ahrens, H. Jason Hale, Mrs. Eliza O. Harvey, Mrs. H. F. Googins, Mrs. Wm. Wigney, Dr. E. C. Spinney, Miss Gertrude deClercq, Mrs. C. F. Harvey, Wm. R. Raymond, Mrs. Geo. McFadden, Mrs. G. E. Downe, Miss Ellen T. Simpson, Rev. E. Lewis Kelley, Rev. Samuel T. Foster, Mrs. S. T. Foster, Dr. R. Leland, Mrs. Seldon Fish, Dr. C. G. Lumley.

Criticisms and suggestions on the committee's work from time to time, will be gratefully received by

Yours fraternally,

Webster Tomlinson, Chairman.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

To the First Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Brothers and Sisters—In submitting our report to you for the year 1909, we call your attention first, since it stands first in importance, to the religious interests which have pervaded our Sunday-school. The Lord hath done great things for us wherof we are glad. Conversions have occurred in the majority of our classes. Our teachers have shown great interest in the salvation of their scholars. Many prayers have been offered in their behalf. Thirty-four members have united with the church by baptism, several others have been converted, a part of whom, at least, ere long we hope to see enrolled as members of our church.

From the secretary's report which covers nine years, we glean the following record: Scholars received into church membership in 1901, none; 1902, thirteen; 1903, seventeen; 1904, twenty-three; 1905, nine; 1906, nine; 1907, twenty-seven; 1908, eighteen; 1909, thirty-four.

Attendance—The gross enrollment of scholars, teachers and officers in the various departments of our Sunday-school is 801. The average attendance has been 545.

Teachers and Sunday-School Workers—Early in the year our teachers' and Sunday-school workers' meeting was re-organized. Sessions have been held weekly with a good attendance and gratifying results.

Teachers and Officers—The number of teachers and officers who have given most diligent and faithful service during the year has been sixty-two.

Organization of Classes—Several of our largest classes during the year have completed their organization by the election of class officers. They have taken for themselves suggestive and appropriate names. We look for good results to attend this forward movement.

Bible Classes—Several bible classes have been sustained with reasonably satisfactory attendance and results.

Intermediate Department—I presume the Lorimer class (Deacon Charles Pienkowsky, nett, teacher), and the Judson class (Mrs. F. C. Ben-pastor. The classes having for their reports to our Mr. Robert Leland, Rev. E. Lewis Kelly, Rev. S. F. Foster, Miss Mary A. Marx, Miss Florence Raymond and Mrs. Spinney, and in fact all the other teachers not here mentioned have made splendid progress along the lines of attendance and special interest in the work of our Sunday-school or the part of the scholars. The adult Bible class, whose teacher is our highly esteemed Peacon Ahrens, has done most effectual work and the attendance has been exceedingly gratifying. The Men's League class, under the efficient leadership of Brother Stouffer, has gone through the year's work with a constantly increasing interest. We regret very much that on account of impaired health our beloved brother was compelled to give up his work with the class for awhile. We hope this is only temporary and that Brother Stouffer, who is regaining his health, will soon be able to take up his former work as teacher.

Junior Department—This department adopted the Keystone Graded Lessons which necessitated enlarged quarters. Since the class regularly graduating yearly therefrom into the intermediate department continues under the graded lesson plan, one or two years more in the said department, hence the room formerly occupied by this department was exchanged for the larger rooms connected with the intermediate department. Mrs. S. T. Foster is the teacher in charge, or superintendent of this department. We are looking for and expecting great things to come from the Junior department. We are confident that they will be realized.

Primary Department—Mrs. A. E. Thomas has been in charge of this department which also has adopted the Keystone Graded Lessons and has rendered faithful service. She has shown herself to be a most excellent teacher.

Beginners' Department—This department has also adopted the Keystone Graded Lessons, and under the leadership of Mrs. C. G. Lumley, has made commendable progress from every point of view. The increase in its membership is very noticeable.

Home Department—This department presents a large field for service and has been during the year in charge of Rev. S. T. Foster, assisted by Miss Ellen Simpson, our Sunday-school visitor.

Our Baby Roll Department is a most enthusiastic and successful department, superintended in the person of our Sister Bilton. This department proves an effectual feeder for the Junior primary department.

The Teachers' Training Class—This class was organized early in the year and is under the supervision of our well qualified and popular teacher, Mrs. Wigney. The class is a large one and promises to be most helpful in supplying and needed trained teachers for our Sunday-school classes. Mrs. Wigney's class will be ready for graduation within the next two or three months. Some of its members may remain and take a

post-graduate course. Others, we trust, will join the forces of our already excellent corps of teachers. We cannot emphasize too strongly the work that is being done by Mrs. Wigney in preparing the members of this class to give just the kind of service which our Sunday-school needs. While our teachers, in our judgment, are most efficient as well as faithful in the work they do, still, we will welcome the greater work which we hope to accomplish through the graduates from our teachers' training class.

S. S. Chorister and Pianist—Our chorister, Deacon D. R. Leland and Mrs. F. C. Bennett, pianist, have done splendidly in leading our song and praise services. Very great credit is due them for the invaluable work they have done in this department.

Our Sunday-School Visitor—Miss Ellen Simpson has been with us for several months. She has shown herself a willing and able helper. She looks carefully after the interests of our Sunday-school scholars, especially the absentees and the sick. She has been faithful and persevering in the discharge of her duties and is very popular with all departments of our Sunday-school.

Finances—The plan of our Sunday-school to set aside for a specific object 50 per cent of the Sunday-school's offerings as heretofore adopted, has commended itself to our judgment, and hence the same plan has been pursued during the current year. We are very grateful to the church for its financial aid, without which we could not have made our Sunday-school work so successful as it has been. The treasurer's report will show in detail what we have accomplished in the way of contributions to benevolent objects. This report we attach herewith.

Library—Our library has been under the charge of Rev. S. T. Foster. I presume he will make to our pastor, or to the members of our church, a report of his stewardship touching the library and its interests and what should be done to increase its helpfulness to our school in general.

Conclusion—I desire to thank, through this channel, all the teachers and officers who have so nobly co-operated with us during the year for the advancement of the interests of our Sunday-school. We have not accomplished as much as was in our heart to do, but we are

thankful for the opportunity afforded us for doing something. In common with you we are coming to regard more and more the Sunday-school field as one which deserves the continued and earnest interest of every member of our church.

Horace Bushnell and Henry Clay Trumbull were great friends. When after the Civil war Mr. Trumbull threw his life energies into Sunday-school work, his friend, Bushnell, asked him one day if he did not think he was devoting too much time and strength to the Sunday-school. Mr. Trumbull replied that he did not think so. Years afterwards, Mr. Bushnell, referring to this conversation, said: "Trumbull, you knew better than I did where the Lord wanted you. I honestly thought the pulpit was a bigger place for you and I tried to get you into it, but I now see that the work you are doing is the greatest work in the world," and after a moment's pause, he added, "sometimes I think it is the only work there is in the world." So long as it means more to the Kingdom of God on earth to win a boy for Christian service than it does to win a man, just so long will the importance of the Sunday-school be recognized and appreciated. There is no more helpful work that can be done by us as members of this church than that which we may do in the Sunday-school. No greater service can be rendered the church by us than to encourage by word, as well as by presence, the efforts of those who are pushing forward the Sunday-school movement. It is estimated that only one church member in five in the United States is found in the Sunday-school. No greater blessing could possibly come to our school than to find therein all our church members who are able to do so. The good that we can accomplish right here is beyond comprehension. Our Sunday-school is the Bible and teaching service of the church. It is not greater than the church. The Master came to found the church and not the Sunday-school. The Sunday-school is an arm of great strength to the church. It supplements the work of the pastor who is at the head of our Sunday-school, as well as of the church. The dawn of the day is upon us when more of our church members will embrace the grand opportunity afforded us in this field of labor. We heartily rejoice in the efforts of our school to prepare its instructors by a course of study fitting them for teachers. In no other way can they be made so efficient for this work as that adopted by our school. We recognize, of course, that nothing can take the place of the Holy Spirit who is the best of all teachers in the unfolding to us the meaning of the word and showing us the duties we should discharge; but speaking after the manner of man, the Holy Spirit's work ordinarily will be more effectual through trained Sunday-school teachers than those who have never had a cultured mind, which comes from close study, under a faithful and conscientious teacher.

Expressing my appreciation of the confidence you have placed in me during the past year and deeply sensible of the imperfect service I have rendered, I remain,
Yours very truly,
E. C. Spinney, Supt.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY- SCHOOL FOR 1909.

Receipts.

January 1, cash on hand, general fund..	\$ 43.64
Cash on hand, Pope Memorial Fund....	9.22
Cash on hand, Teachers Training Class..	13.00
Received from Sunday collections for benevolences	190.54
Received from Sunday collections for general fund	190.54
Received from Sunday collections for birthday fund	22.21
Received from Pope Memorial Fund....	25.00
Received from Home department.....	17.52
Received account Sacrifice Fund	23.79
Received account Fisher Mission Fund..	23.79
Received account Chicago Baptist Hospital	1.54
Received account Home for Missionaries' Children	2.26
Received account Thanksgiving Offering.	20.08
Received account Regions Beyond from Teachers' Training Class	7.48
Received account church repair fund....	89.40
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	\$660.43

Disbursements.

School expense, General Fund.....	\$265.01
School expense, Pope Memorial Fund..	38.10
Mrs. Wigney, account Sacrifice Fund..	3.55
Mrs. Wigney, account Thanksgiving Offering	20.08
Mrs. Wigney, account Regions Beyond..	7.48
Church repair work	89.40
Raymond Mission, account Birthday Offering	22.21
C. H. D. Fisher, account Fisher Mission Fund	23.79
Home Missions	15.86
Foreign Missions	16.64
Raymond Mission	16.07
Central Baptist Orphanage	15.19
Chinese Mission	13.78
City Missions	13.48
Cook Co. Sunday-School Assn.....	13.17
Primary Union	13.51
Y. M. C. A.	7.02
Bohemian Mission	13.65
Chicago Baptist Hospital.....	13.99
Chapel Car Work	15.17
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	\$637.15

Cash on hand, Sacrifice Fund.....	.66
Baptist Hospital	1.54
Home for Miss. Children.....	2.26
Teachers' Training Class	13.00
Benevolence unpaid	23.01
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Overdrawn account Pope Memorial Fund.	\$ 40.47
General Expenses	3.88
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	\$ 17.19

Balance.....	\$ 23.28
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	\$660.43

C. H. Stone, Treas.

THE WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

Dr. A. K. deBlois.

Dear Pastor—The Woman's Mission Circle has closed a year of the usual activity. Our purpose being through the Woman's Home and Foreign Societies to aid in bringing the gospel message to the women and children of all lands.

We have followed the inter-denominational study course which this year gives us the history of Christianity in Latin lands. This is supplemented by reports on current events giving us the progress of our Baptist work at home and abroad.

While our own members cheerfully undertake the preparation of the program for each meeting, at special gatherings visiting missionaries or our friends from sister churches bring inspiration to the Circle, and twice a year a large class of students from the training school, by their presence and participation, lend encouragement.

During the year we have been addressed by Mrs. May Fowler Thompson and Miss Adkins, of the Foreign Society; Mrs. Green and Mrs. Barber, of the Home Society. Mrs. Andrew MacLeish was with us at the Praise service.

We have felt deeply the loss of four of our older members during the year, all of whom had greatly endeared themselves to the Circle by their unflinching interest and cheerful cooperation.

Mrs. Monroe Heath passed away early in the year. She had been through many a year a generous contributor to our work.

Our beloved Mrs. Haigh left us in the autumn, but her administration and her example will long remain as a presence among us.

With the closing year, Mrs. Blackman and Mrs. Paxton were called home, and their helpful responsive presence will be greatly missed.

In addition to the regular effort to raise our part toward the work of women for women, we have held a birthday party, the returns bringing \$26 to the treasury.

The Thank offerings at the Praise service were over \$80.

During the year 1909, \$389.09 were contributed to Home Missions, and \$377.39 to Foreign Missions through the Circle. The larger part of this sum applies on last year's apportionment, leaving us with a large sum to raise in the next two months. If each woman in our church will give as God prompts, this can be provided and become a means of grace to the giver as well as to our sisters in the regions beyond.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennie M. C. Single.

THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Dr. Austen K. Blois.

My dear Pastor—Once more the wheels of time have brought the Ladies' Benevolent Society to the close of another year and we look back to recall the work we have done. Fifteen regular meetings have been held. We have eight new members, and although our membership remains about eighty, our average attendance has been only sixty and a fraction. Serious accidents and illness have kept some of our

most active members prisoners for weeks. Others have left the city. Two of our oldest members were called to the eternal home. Notwithstanding these hindrances, our work has gone steadily on and been so great that considering the small attendance, we are amazed at the variety and amount of work done. We have done sewing for our own needy ones—for the Jackson Park Sanitarium and the students at the training school. We have filled orders for aprons, comforts and quilts, in this way bringing many dollars into our treasury. Embroidery teas, subscriptions to Good Housekeeping, sale of old magazines and papers and delicatessen goods have also added to our treasury. Personal contributions and serving the League dinner added to these have enabled us to meet the greater part of our pledge for \$3,500 toward the repair fund.

December 18, 1909, we had in our treasury, \$972.34. Our receipts for the year were \$2,194.95. Our disbursements were \$2,950.20. Balance on hand December 3, 1909, \$217.09. We made a generous donation of sheets and gave \$10 in money to the Baptist Orphanage. We sent a large rug and two comforts to the Baptist Old People's Home. We contributed \$20 to the Young Woman's Christian Association. We sent two bedspreads and a comfort to a Chinese woman and carried a family of three adult church members through an emergency caused by illness and lack of work. We gave clothing and food to a poor family recommended by Mrs. Bliss, of Pilgrim Temple church. Two comforts were given to the Bureau of Charities. We donated fifty articles of clothing to the Jackson Park Sanitarium. We contributed to the bazaar for the Chicago Girl's Refuge, and also to the boxes sent out by our Mission Circle. In March, we made our annual donation to the Baptist hospital, and also contributed to their Rummage sale. It gave us great pleasure to practically refurnish our room at the hospital—placing a beautiful rug on the floor, covering the couch, screening the patient from curious eyes passing through the hall, providing dainty dishes for the tray and a pretty basket for scraps, transformed the room.

We have placed a gas range in our kitchen. We have given away 308 old garments, 107 new garments, six comforts and twenty yards of outing flannel. In connection with this work our distributing committee made 156 calls. The Industrial school, under the management of Mrs. Wigney and Mrs. King, has prospered. A gift from our treasury at Christmas time gave the children a glimpse of the bright side of life. They also enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner provided and served by some of our ladies.

Some of our members do little or no serving, but their sound, sympathetic and yet discriminating judgment has been very helpful and indispensable.

Too much praise cannot be given our standing committees who have been ready on every occasion. The cutting committee has placed well prepared work in every hand. Two hundred and eighty-nine garments have been completed during the year. The quilt committee, although handicapped by a serious accident to its chairman, has made fifteen comforts, two quilts and one mattress cover. Seven hundred and thirty-eight strangers have responded to

the cordial greeting of the Lookout committee. Our Luncheon committee has provided dainty and bountiful lunches, willing substitutes taking charge in the absence of the chairman. This committee, having received \$134.25, expended \$128.72, leaving a balance in their treasury of \$5.53. This means serving 900 lunches for \$128.72—most remarkable financiering. Each year our work is broader and we face new problems.

Feeling sure that we each realize our individual responsibility for work well done, and also for neglected duty and that we are going to throw ourselves heartily into the work of this society, giving our time and practicing self-denial whenever the interest of the society demands it, we can look forward hopefully. United effort in the Master's name will accomplish great things.

F. B. Morava, Secy.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

Dr. Austen K. deBlois.

Dear Pastor—In looking back over the year we feel that some progress has been made in the work of our Christian Endeavor Society.

We started out auspiciously at the beginning of the year with a live, active president at the head of the society. For three months the society thrived under Miss Bucklin's leadership. At the end of this time Miss Bucklin felt called upon to resign her office, on account of her removal to Normal Park. It was with great regret that we let her go. The change was felt in the society and we came up to the summer with very little accomplished and with very little interest or enthusiasm manifest in the meetings. The society gave up its regular meetings during the summer and helped in the open air meetings on Sunday evenings. The regular work was resumed the first of September. The outlook was discouraging. The attendance was small and there was a lack of spirit and enthusiasm. On October 1, the wonderful "Gipsy Smith Mission" began in the Seventh Regiment Armory. Many of our members attended these meetings constantly, and what our society gained through this mission cannot be told in words. The attendance on Sunday evenings has increased, the membership is growing steadily and a new interest and zeal is evidenced on the part of the young people.

Financially, we feel we have done well. This is largely due to the untiring efforts of our treasurer, Miss Hattie Todd. We have raised our money for current expenses by monthly pledges. These have been well paid up, and all bills have been settled, including our per capita tax. Special pledges were taken early in the year—amounting to \$10—toward World Wide Christian Endeavor work. These pledges have all been paid in. The society participated in the temperance parade, paying \$5 for the wagon in which to ride.

Our missionary money has been raised by each member pledging two cents per week. From this fund an appropriation of \$3 has been made toward the Cook county hospital work and \$1.50 to help furnish refreshments for a class of boys at the Bohemian Mission. The Christmas collection, amounting to about \$2, has been set aside for use at Raymond Mission.

In the spring when pledges were made

toward the church decoration fund, our society was asked to raise \$300 for this purpose. With only thirty members in the society, and a number of those unable to give, this seemed like a colossal and almost impossible thing. The society made no definite pledge, but voted to do the very best it could toward raising this amount. Personal pledges by the members of the society were made, amounting to about \$125. This means that there is still a sum of \$175 to be raised. It means "a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether," but we hope eventually to raise the entire amount.

The proposition made to us by the Curtis Publishing Co., whereby our society receive 35 cents for each subscription or renewal secured for the Ladies' Home Journal and the Saturday Evening Post, has worked out fairly well, although in this, as in almost everything we have undertaken, there have been difficulties in the way. Between \$12 and \$13 has been cleared from this source during December. This will be applied on our \$300 pledge.

Much credit is due the prayer-meeting committee for the excellent leaders they have secured during the year, and for the splendid meetings which have been held. The same can be said of the missionary committee. We have had some live missionary speakers. Special music has been furnished for many of our meetings, which has added greatly to the interest. The social committee has done good work, the "Progressive Social" in the spring being a particularly successful one. At our Thanksgiving Rally, a good supply of provisions was donated and about \$4.50 in money secured. The society now has a membership of forty.

The following officers have been elected for the year 1910:

President—Gertrude S. deClercq.

Vice President—Fred E. Wolters.

Secretary—Ernest Hartung.

Treasurer—Hattie Todd.

Respectfully submitted,

Gertrude S. de Clercq, President.

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

Rev. Austen K. de Blois,

Dear Pastor: In January, 1909, the Amoret Henson Guild entered upon the ninth year of its work as an organization in the church.

It was felt that the members of the Guild should do something definite in the way of giving to missions, and with that object in view envelopes were distributed at the November, 1908, meeting for voluntary contributions toward the support of Miss Grane and Miss Gertrude Miller, the latter of whom had previously told the Guild of the work which she was about to take up in Cuba. The envelopes were returned at the March meeting and \$5.00 was given through the Women's Circle to be used for Miss Grane and Miss Miller. In the meantime the Guild had contributed \$5.00 toward the building fund of the Missiary Training School. Since a majority of the members of the Guild are not directly connected with any missionary organization, a certain number of the programs during the year are on the subject of missions.

The principal matter of business discussed at

the meetings since April has been the society's proportion of the Church Repair Fund, of which quite a portion has been raised by pledges, and it is expected that in the near future the entire amount will be secured.

The present officers of the Guild, who were elected at the September meeting, are:

President—Miss Leila Ahrens.

Vice President—Miss Mary Williams.

Secretary—Miss Christene MacFadden.

Treasurer—Miss Florence Raymond.

And the following chairmen:

Supper Committee—Miss Nan de Clercq.

Entertainment—Miss Blanche Harvey.

Visiting—Miss Ellen Simpson.

Membership—Miss Medora Googins.

Missionary—Miss Hattie Todd.

The treasurer reports as follows:

Total receipts for the year.....	\$46.71
Disbursements	42.82

On hand January 1, 1910.....\$ 3.80

The meetings this fall and winter have been very well attended and a great deal of interest manifested in the work of the Guild. The programs have been most interesting and instructive. At one meeting we were favored with an entertaining account of a trip through Sweden and at another by a talk concerning conditions in the Orient, referring more particularly to mission work among the girls and women. During the remainder of the year we are promised programs equally as good, and it is hoped that every young lady in the church and congregation will make a special effort to attend the monthly meetings at which there is an excellent opportunity to become acquainted as well as to be entertained and instructed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christene MacFadden, Secretary.

THE MEN'S LEAGUE.

Dr. Austen K. deBlois.

Dear Pastor—I beg to submit the following report on the work of the League during the past twelve months. On January 22 the united clubs of the neighborhood met at our church, this being one of a series of meetings to be held at all the respective churches, with the general improvement of this district in view.

On Friday, February 23, an "Italian evening" entertainment was successfully given, participating in which were Prof. Havens and Mr. James Edgar Brown, the former giving an organ recital which was enjoyed by all as a prelude to the lantern lecture by Mr. Brown on "Italy, Sicily and the Earthquake Region."

In March and April three stereopticon lectures were given, one "A Trip to and Through the Philippine Islands," by Doctor G. W. Goggin; another by Mrs. White on "The Wonderland of Colorado," and the third, "Irrigation in Colorado," by Mr. E. T. Allen, each being preceded by an attractive musical program. The lectures were both entertaining and instructive.

On May 4 a special business meeting was called by the President, Mr. W. E. Smith, to consider the recommendation of a committee appointed prior to this meeting having as its objective the reduction of the debt on the church

lot. On May 18 the annual entertainment was given and a splendid program was enjoyed by all.

A regular business meeting was held on Monday, June 14, and a committee consisting of twelve members was appointed to consider the special lines of work the League should take up and recommend a plan of campaign to be followed. This committee met on July 26 and reported at the regular business meeting of August 2. This report recommended the adoption of some contract with the Glazier Lyceum Bureau to provide for a course of ten musical evenings and lectures to be given once or twice each month.

On the same evening as the meeting, June 14, the last of the entertaining and musical programs provided by the social committee was most successfully given. Miss Josephine Rogers, Miss Harriette Williams and Mrs. S. Pomeroy took part.

Regular business meetings were held on August 2 and September 28, the recommendations of the special committee regarding the lyceum bureau entertainments were approved, and a committee of three appointed to co-operate with the Pastor and President in formulating and carrying out plans for increasing the attendance and interest in the Sunday evening services during the coming year. This committee consisted of Messrs. C. M. Clarke, L. C. Humphrey and W. R. Raymond.

These meetings were devoted to the questions of lyceum bureau entertainment details, election of officers for the coming year, the collection of dues, ways and means for increasing the attendance of the Sunday morning Bible class and other such work as already outlined.

At a special meeting held at the residence of the new President, the Rev. E. L. Kelley, October 8, and subsequent meetings, arrangements were made to assist in increasing the attendance at evening Sunday services, by regularly distributing invitations on the street and other public places, and by the appointment of fifteen or twenty men of the league who would attend a men's league prayer-meeting just before the service and afterward distribute themselves throughout the church, for the purpose of welcoming. A committee was also appointed to attend to the printing of the cards of invitation before referred to. It was resolved that all proceeds above the necessary expenses of the League accruing from the lyceum bureau course should be appropriated for the church repair fund. The Sunday and main schools were invited to use free tickets to the entertainments as rewards such as they see fit. It was arranged that reserved seat season tickets be sold for \$2 and single admissions for 25 cents, for children under 14, admissions for 15 cents and season tickets for \$1.00.

This year's annual dinner, held October 22, will long be remembered by all of us who partook of the good things provided and listened with rapt attention to the musical renditions by Mr. Robinson and Dr. Carver Williams. The interest of the remainder of the evening was centered in the addresses of welcome by our beloved ex-president, Mr. W. E. Smith, and new president, Rev. E. L. Kelley, and the talk of State's Attorney Wayman. We present, who

admired before, doubled our esteem of him through his candid, stirring and honest words on the all-important subject of municipal cleanliness.

The first of the series of the lyceum bureau entertainments was given on October 26, and the "Chicago Ladies' Orchestra" was enjoyed thoroughly. Bock, artist and cartoonist, on November 9; Prof. Louis Williams on "The Science of Electricity" on December 7; James H. Shaw, a popular lecturer, on December 21, followed and entertained their audiences in their respective ways, and appealed to the different senses.

Early in December our beloved Bible class leader, Mr. C. R. Stouffer, was taken seriously ill and it was thought advisable to appoint Mr. C. M. Clarke to assist Mr. Stouffer by leading the class till his return. We are all very greatly delighted to see Mr. Stouffer amongst us again and pray that his recovery be complete.

Through the good work of committees appointed, many new members to the class have been introduced, which is all that is ever necessary, as they stay of themselves, the studies are so interesting and the leadership so able.

The following contribution was collected and forwarded by the League to the Pastor on Home Field: Two suits men's clothes, one overcoat, one pair shoes and \$6.00 in cash.

Through the medium of the Sunday evening service workers, new members have been baptized, the cordiality of the services have been increased, and too much praise cannot be given these faithful men.

We all realize how much the League is indebted to our ex-president, Mr. W. E. Smith, for splendid work ably accomplished during the life of the League, and for this past year's plans that President E. L. Kelley has thus been enabled to carry to fruition.

I believe the accomplishments of the year that has passed will act as a mighty incentive for a new year of increasing effectiveness.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur L. Smyly.

THE KINDERGARTEN.

Dr. A. K. deBlois.

Dear Pastor:—The Kindergarten Committee presents the following report:

At a meeting of the Pastor's Aids in May, the desirability of some work being inaugurated for the benefit of the neighborhood was presented, and the ladies were asked by the pastor if they did not think they could start a kindergarten.

Notwithstanding the general feeling that all our hands were full—one of the number was asked to make inquiries about the kindergarten which had been started in the Baptist Missionary Training School in the winter, to ascertain if it was to be continued or, if not, whether it could be turned over to us, allowing us to use their room until such time as the repairs were completed on our building.

It was found that the Board of the W. A. B. H. M. S. intended to continue their school as a means of giving their students training in kindergarten methods and practice. As their pupils

came entirely from the district north of Thirty-first street, it was thought there was room for another school that would draw its patronage from the district south of Thirty-first street.

The question of funds to carry on the work was next considered and the plan of securing monthly pledges was adopted, each member of the Pastor's Aid to solicit as much as possible, not only from our own membership, but also from benevolent people in the neighborhood.

The repairs going on in the church building made it impossible to open in the summer, so the matter was dropped until a bequest of \$500 was received from Mrs. Monroe Heath, the same to be used for some charitable work of the church and the trustees voted to devote this money to the kindergarten, allowing it to be used at the rate of \$25 per month, thus making it assist in the work for two school years. An effort was then made to secure the remaining \$25 per month, and it was voted to open the school at Raymond Chapel. However, after careful visitation of the field it was found that neighborhood was fully supplied with kindergartens and the original plan was returned to, of opening in the home church.

The necessary subscriptions were secured and Mrs. D. O. Paige of Detroit was elected by the church to open the school, and a kindergarten committee, consisting of Mrs. Donnelley, Mrs. Wigney, Miss Church and Mrs. Goggins, was appointed.

Mrs. Paige and Miss Simpson began calling for the purpose of securing pupils and were greatly pleased at the reception they received and the number of pupils promised.

On Monday, January 3, the school was opened with fifteen pupils, which the committee felt was most gratifying, especially considering the severe cold. Of the fifteen only five were from our own Sunday-school, showing we are widening the influence of the church.

We found that a small fee was desirable, as people did not care to send their children to what is called a free kindergarten, so a charge of 10 cents per week is made and where parents are able they give more.

In addition to the monthly pledges, a collection was taken at the watch-night service, amounting to \$12.82 and \$6.00 has been added since. There has been expended on supplies, \$15.94.

A bookcase, in which to keep the supplies, has been donated by Mrs. T. B. King, one of the oldest members of our church.

The committee has been gratified at the cheerful response you have made to its appeals and we bespeak for this youngest child of our church your loving interest and prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ella F. Goggins, for the Committee.

Report of the Raymond Chapel Committee.

Dr. A. K. de Blois:

Dear Pastor: The past month some new arrangements have been made at Raymond which we hope will result in a larger work there than has heretofore been possible. For some time the University of Chicago has felt the need of a field for its divinity students to get some practical

experience in mission and settlement work. About a year ago, with this in view, the University offered Dr. Hoben, then Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Detroit, a Professorship in charge of a department of practical work. Dr. Hoben, while in Detroit, had been especially successful with boys' clubs and other similar work, and his experience and training especially fitted him to take hold of just such a department at the University.

After several conferences, Dr. deBlois, Dean Shailer Mathews, Dr. Hoben and your Chairman decided that the Committee would continue to give the amount we had been in the habit of paying for preaching services, and the University would contribute almost an equal amount from its scholarship funds, the whole being used to pay three students, all of whom are to do active work on the Raymond field. In this connection it might be mentioned that the University does not make a practice of giving money to any of its divinity students without requiring some work from them in return.

It is our expectation that this arrangement will prove a very satisfactory one.

One student will take charge of the preaching services and have general supervision over all the work, the other two being his assistants, and each taking charge of some particular branch of the work, such as the Sunday-school, Boys' Club, etc. All three will do active visiting work in the district surrounding the Chapel, and also regularly attend the preaching services of the First Church and be of any assistance possible to Dr. deBlois in connection with our other services. Each week they all report to Dr. Hoben and spend a half hour or more discussing the various problems with which they have to contend, and in that way receive the benefit of his advice and experience.

Mr. Morgan, the student in general charge of the work, has already shown his efficiency by increasing the attendance at the Sunday evening services, and Mr. True is organizing the Sunday-school on a basis which will result in a larger and better school than formerly. It is also planned to take a systematic census of the entire neighborhood, with a view to getting hold of those persons who are not now regular attendants of any church.

Plans are also under way for the holding of regular Mothers' meetings and organizing one or two new departments. During the past year the Girls' Guild, in charge of Miss Elizabeth Lingle, has never been more flourishing. The regular attendance is from sixteen to twenty, and the girls expect soon to begin a course in millinery, which will be of great interest and help to them. The Industrial School on Saturday is also doing excellent work with Mrs. William Wigney in charge.

This year's annual collection for Raymond was especially gratifying and, with the additional subscriptions which we expect to receive during the year, and these other plans which I have outlined to you above, the committee hope that the coming year will bring a great change for good at Raymond Chapel.

May we all do our part toward making it a success!

RAYMOND CHAPEL COMMITTEE,
Bowman C. Lingle, Chairman.

RAYMOND CHAPEL: TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance on hand, January 12, 1909.....\$231.58
 Receipts from all sources from Jan. 12,
 1909, to Jan. 10, 1910.....718.02

Total.....\$949.60
 Disbursements covering same period of time as
 follows:

January, 1909—

14, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....\$ 18.00
 16, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....18.00
 21, B. C. Lingle.....95.16
 28, People's Gas Company.....3.74
 28, W. S. McClelland, printer.....5.50
 28, Postage.....1.25

February—

1, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore, janitress.....16.00
 2, Wm. Weinman, painting.....65.00
 6, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....18.00
 13, E. L. Kelley, printing 1000 cards...3.47

March—

2, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore, janitress.....16.00
 2, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....36.00
 3, Deacon Wigney, coal and wood.....8.00
 3, People's Gas Company.....4.08
 20, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....18.00
 26, A. King.....1.75

April—

1, People's Gas Company.....4.59
 3, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....18.00
 3, F. H. Hackendahl, church signs.....3.00
 5, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....16.00
 20, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....27.00

May—

3, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....18.00
 3, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....16.00
 5, A. King, glass for Raymond Chapel......45
 14, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....18.00
 21, Williams Printing, Co., 5M circulars.....6.00
 21, Moore Bond Co., 1 year use slides...25.00
 29, Moore Bond Co., 1 broken slide......64

June—

4, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....12.00
 14, People's Gas Company.....7.03
 15, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....36.00

July—

6, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....12.00
 6, People's Gas Company.....1.53
 7, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....27.00

August—

14, E. L. Kelley, electric light bill......90
 14, E. L. Kelley, preaching.....45.00
 20, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....12.00
 20, People's Gas Company.....2.89

September—

8, Mrs. Gilmore.....12.00
 25, People's Gas Company.....1.36
 25, E. L. Kelley.....30.00

October—

8, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....12.00
 27, People's Gas Company.....2.38

November—

5, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....12.00
 8, Postage and post cards......93
 13, E. L. Kelley.....30.00
 20, E. L. Kelley.....30.00
 24, B. O. Lingle.....35.35

December—

4, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....12.00

16, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....17
 January, 1910—4.00

4, C. E. Hewett.....41.67

4, Neal & Co.....32.00

10, Mrs. J. F. Gilmore.....16.00

Total.....\$908.67

Total receipts.....\$949.60

Balance on hand, January 10, 1910...\$ 40.93

E. C. Spinney, Treasurer,
 Raymond Chapel Mission.

RAYMOND CHAPEL SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

Treasurer's Report for the Year Ending December 31, 1909.

To balance January 1, deficit.....\$10.43
 Collections during year.....\$64.24

aid D. S. Cook for supplies.....40.49

Paid for flowers, acct. Flower Day...6.85

Paid Norman Carr institution, Up-
 per Alton.....2.50

Paid account Christmas candies.....8.25

Paid for miscellaneous supplies.....3.14

Total expenses.....71.66

Deficit.....\$ 7.42

Birthday Offerings.

To balance, January 1.....\$17.44

Offering during year.....8.58

Total.....\$26.02

Paid E. L. Kelley, acct. electric picture...10.25

Balance on hand.....\$15.77

F. H. Hackendahl, Treasurer.

Average attendance at Sunday-school, 78.

RAYMOND CHAPEL INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

The first three months of 1909 were rather discouraging for the school, not because the children were not there, but because there were no teachers to look after them. But the few faithful ones did their best, and when the school closed in April, we felt that the work had been well done, all things considered. In October we felt that we could not open the school under the same conditions, but, after talking the matter over, it was decided to open the school, and, through the effort of Mrs. Marshall, a number of ladies pledged themselves to be present, one or more of them, every Saturday. The plan worked well and up to two weeks before Christmas we were fairly well supplied with teachers. On Thanksgiving Day, through the kindness of the ladies of the Benevolent Society, a dinner was given to the children. They were entertained by three lady missionaries, who told them how Thanksgiving was kept in China, India and Africa. They played games, sang songs and had a most enjoyable time. Seventy-four were present.

On December 23, the Sunday-school and the Industrial School united in the Christmas entertainment. The room was prettily decorated, and well filled with children and adults. Dr. de Blois pleased the children with a nice little talk, also

Mr. Morgan gave a short talk. Speaking and singing by the children, who were all made happy with a box of candy and an apple. All seemed to be well pleased and we were glad to see a number of our brothers and sisters present. We feel that Mrs. Page is going to be quite a help to us, but without regular teachers the best work cannot be well done. Mrs. King, Miss McNeil, Mrs. Johnson and Miss Simpson deserve special mention. They are always present. We hope that more of our ladies will become regular teachers. The love of those dear children will more than make up for any sacrifice they may make. Our smallest attendance was on the opening day, October 2, nineteen, and the largest, December 18, seventy-four.

Mrs. William Wigney, Superintendent.

THE JUDSON CLASS.

Rev. Austen K. de Blois.

My dear Pastor: I hand you herewith the annual report of the Judson Class for the past year. It has been a year of great satisfaction to all concerned about the class. The several records made by us, I think, are not excelled by any other class in the Sunday-school, organized or not.

The class gave several social meetings last year, one on Lincoln's birthday and another along in April, both of which were successful and enjoyable to all.

In our attendance at Sunday-school, we have a larger percentage of scholars present than any organized class. During the summer months, our class had the largest number present of any class in the Sunday-school.

One more thing I wish to announce is the baptism of six members of our class, which I think we ought to be thankful for, even if that was the only achievement accomplished by us. The names of the above members are, John McElroy, Arthur Vennell, Rollin Coleman, Harold and Allen Palmer and Eugene Schmitt. In addition to this, I might add that two of our members are contemplating joining the church, but there are certain conditions that make it hard to decide. We only hope and pray that these obstacles may be removed.

I think that the above mentioned act of six members joining the church shows the benefit reaped from the teachings of our teacher, Mrs. Bennett.

Respectfully submitted,
Eugene M. Schmitt, Secretary.

THE WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

The Woman's Mission Circle held a very pleasant meeting on January 14. The severe weather and prevalent colds reduced the number to thirty-four, but the program was especially enjoyed by those present. Mrs. Reynolds, general field secretary for the Woman's Baptist Home Mission Society, presented a graphic picture of the schools maintained by this society among the colored people of the South, and showed that this is the agency by which trained teachers, who are also Christian teachers, can be secured to help in the elevation of the colored race. She illustrated by stories full of pathos, of girls who had gone from these schools to do self-

sacrificing work among their own people. Miss Church continued the study of Christianity in Latin lands, by tracing the religious history of France from the time when Trophimus became first bishop of Arles to 1907, when the decree of separation of church and state became effective in France. Mrs. Atwell contributed a beautiful poem, entitled, "The Cruse that Faith Never," and a solo by Mrs. Downes was much enjoyed.

Our president had planned a pleasant surprise in the form of a home-like afternoon tea, which was appreciated by all, and the service was voted one of the cheeriest of the season despite the wintry skies.

PERSONAL.

Miss Margaret Van Fleet, our former church missionary and Sunday-school visitor, has been spending the holidays in Detroit, and on her way to Texas, stopped over to visit us. She is to be the head worker in the Evangela Settlement House in Waco, Texas, where she assumes her duties February 1. We were glad to see her and our best wishes go with her to the new field.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

On Thursday evening, December 30, 1900, the Sunday-school entertainment was given in the auditorium of the church before a large and appreciative audience. The entertainment was given entirely by members of the school, who had been trained by the committee, of whom Miss Clara de Clercq was the chairman. Mrs. R. F. Bennett was untiring and persistent in her efforts to drill the participants thoroughly in their parts on very short notice, and to her energy and perseverance is largely due the success which characterized the event.

The scene was the trial of Santa Claus, the characters consisted of a judge and jury and a court crier. The members of the jury were Old Father Time, Mother Goose, the May Queen, Lady Valentine, Jack Frost, Miss Poetry, Tradition and other notable personages.

Santa Claus was brought into court and arraigned by the prosecution as being a fraud and a fake, but the defence produced overwhelming evidence to prove that Santa was innocent of the charge, and the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty and the prisoner was discharged. All who took part are to be congratulated upon the splendid success of the show and the members of the committee deserve great credit for the manner in which they performed their duties.

A photographer was on hand and took a flash-light picture of the company upon the platform and our genial and generous superintendent promised a copy of the picture to all who took part.

At the close of the trial, our candy man, J. G. Marsh (who is ever sweet about Christmas time), appeared upon the scene and presented every scholar in the school with a pound of pure candy, and thus another Sunday-school treat has passed into history, only to be followed, as we hope, by many more such delightful occasions.



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CONTRIBUTORS.

Mrs. S. B. Lingle.....The Mission Circle
Dr. Frank Gale.....Men's League
Mrs. G. E. Jackman.....The Ladies' Benevolent
Miss Clara E. de Clercq.....Christian Endeavor
William WigneySunday-school
Ernest HartungLorimer Baraca
Rev. E. Lewis Kelley.....Raymond Chapel

If we had more paid subscribers to Church Life we could afford to include a number of cuts in each monthly number—which we greatly desire to do. Don't you want to have it sent by mail each month? Fifty cents. Send your name on a postal or drop a request in the contribution basket at any service.

Subscription price, fifty cents a year. Remittances and changes in address should be sent to Dr. de Blois, to whom also matter for publication should be sent on the first day of each month.

Pews or sittings in the church may be obtained from the pew committee, Messrs. R. B. Twiss, Webster Tomlinson and E. L. Roy at the close of any church service. Diagram will be found near the door.

It is the plan of the Editor to give a receipt to every subscriber to Church Life for payments made, and if such payments are not thus acknowledged within a reasonable time subscribers will confer a favor by notifying the Editor of the fact. Money sometimes gets lost in the mails or otherwise and a little prompt attention at the time will obviate differences of opinion at a later date. Kindly notice also the date to which you are credited on the receipt and have it corrected if wrong.

A STORY WITH A MORAL.

Have you ever heard the story
Of the little stern-wheel boat?—
One that used to on the waters
Of the Mississippi float—
Though diminutive in size, it
Proudly bore the mighty name
Of "Leviathan"; and in its
Day was not unknown to fame.

And it had a fussy captain,
And a busy, bustling crew,
Pilot, clerk, et cetera, and
Ragged roustabouts, a few.
And judged by their lofty manners,
As they swaggered fore and aft,
Theirs was far superior to
Any other river craft.

Just why they should feel so boastful,
It were difficult to say,
Save the fact their giant whistle
Could be heard ten miles away:
But, unfortunately, every
Time it blew its warning note,
It exhausted all the steam, and
Stopped dead still the little boat.

Still, all up and down the river,
With its big, loud-sounding name,
And its louder sounding whistle,
It acquired a storied fame,
As the fussy little boat that,
Every time its whistle blew,
Was compelled to stop its engine
Till the deaf'ning blast was through.

Not unlike this little steamboat,
There are men and women, who,
Always boasting of great things that
They have done or are to do,
Never get a thing accomplished,
And forget that empty sound,
While it serves to draw attention,
Never makes the wheels go round.

Happy they, who, never fearing
Lest their doings, small or great,
Pass unnoticed, trust with patience;
Knowing, while they work and wait,
That sure laws of compensation—
Cause and Sequence—always true,
In their own time, in their own way,
For reward, give just what's due.

—O—
And the sequel? List, and heed it!
Always, everywhere, you'll find,
All your thoughts, your words, your actions,
Yield returns—each of its kind.
Chicago. Richard Bentley Twiss.

Item.—And first, I give to good fathers and mothers, but in trust for their children, nevertheless, all good little words of praise and all quaint pet names, and I charge said parents to use them justly but generously as the needs of their children shall require.—A Last Will.—Wiliston Fish.

WORTH MEMORIZING.

By William Pierson Merrill

Not alone for mighty empire,
Stretching far o'er land and sea;
Not alone for bounteous harvests
Lift we up our hearts to thee;
On this day of glad thanksgiving,
In thy light of truth serene,
We, the people of this nation,
Praise thee most for things unseen.

Not for battleship and fortress,
Not for conquests of the sword,
But for conquests of the spirit
Give we thanks to thee, O Lord;
For the priceless gift of freedom,
For the home, the church, the school;
For the open door to manhood
In a land the people rule.

For the glory that illumines
Washington's and Lincoln's name—
Glory of unselfish service,
Far beyond a conqueror's fame;
For our prophets and apostles,
Loyal to the living word;
For our heroes of the spirit,
Give we thanks to thee, O Lord.

God of justice, save the people
From the war of race and creed,
From the strife of class and faction;
Make our nation free indeed.
Keep her faith in simple manhood
Strong as when her life began,
Till it find its full fruition
In the brotherhood of man.

Amen.

ESSENTIAL THINGS IN RELIGION.

Three things are usually insisted on as necessary to the maintenance of religion. They are the holy book, the holy house, the holy day. Without the Bible, the church and the Sabbath, it is affirmed, knowledge of God will cease in the land. Are these the essential things in religion?

The claims urged in behalf of all of them are disputed. The divine authority of the Bible and of the church is challenged. The obligation to observe the Sabbath as a divine institution is denied. The larger part of the popular discussion of religious subjects is related to the claims of the divine origin of these three things. The threefold message of orthodox faith today is, Believe the Bible as the Word of God, Belong to the church as the Bride of Christ, Keep the Sabbath as ordained by God.

The same tests apply to all these three things to show whether or not their claims can be sub-

stantiated. Therefore, we confine our attention now to one of them, the church. Is it a creation of God? Must one enter it as the only door into the Kingdom of God? Is loyalty to the church the supreme test of being acceptable to God?

The majority of believers of Jesus Christ historically answer these questions in the affirmative. The Roman Catholic Church claims the exclusive possession of authority from God to reveal the truth, to grant absolution of sins, to give assurance of felicity after death. The Greek Catholic Church insists no less absolutely on its divine prerogatives. The Episcopal Church holds itself the chosen treasure house of gifts and graces imparted by Jesus Christ to his apostles and transmitted by direct act of inheritance to each successive generation of ordained guardians of the church to this day. Other Christian sects, too many to be named here, hold as an essential of faith the selection of their church as the imperishable witness to the presence of the living God.

A pertinent illustration of common judgment of the church is given in an article in the September American Magazine, by Ray Stannard Baker on the Faith of the Unchurched. He cites statistics to show that it is increasingly difficult for churches to get money for necessary expenses, and that attendance on them is diminishing. He testifies from his observation that churches exist to hear poetical sermons and excellent music, and that people attend their services "to see their neighbors of the same limited class, and to be seen by them and to enjoy a half hour of intellectual stimulation." He sees a new faith emerging in human society, the faith of the unchurched, which chiefly expresses itself in "the social settlement movement, hospital extension, municipal and political reform, and many of the newer forms of charity and education."

We think Mr. Baker is better acquainted with social settlements and neighborhood guilds than with churches. But granting that his judgment is correct that organized churches are dying out, is that a good reason for believers in Christ to be disheartened?

Congregationalists at any rate will confidently answer, No. To them the church is a voluntary organization of believers. Their faith is not in the church, but in God, as revealed through Jesus Christ. If the church should die, believers in Christ. If the church should die, believers in Christ. For him would unite under some other name. For they believe they are sent into the world on the same mission on which their Lord came—to deliver men from oppressive burdens, to lift them into fellowship with him and inspire them with his spirit of service. . . .

We welcome the faith of the unchurched. It will find expression in the communion and fellowship of those who have the spirit of Christ and do his work. These things only are the essentials of the Christian religion. The Bible, the Church, the Sabbath are creations of men. Religion existed before they did. We believe the spirit of God moved men to create this trinity of institutions by which Christian faith expresses itself. It is the faith that is essential, not the forms of its expression. The works that express the faith change with changing times. So long as faith is vital the institutions which spring from it will be renewed according to human needs and will be acknowledged by God as his own.—Congregationalist.

NEW YEAR'S MEDITATIONS.

The Victorious Life.

Rom. 8:37. More than Conquerors.
J. Y. Montague.

Prof. Lester F. Ward sometime ago gave a very interesting article on the subject, "Sociology Cosmology or Man's place in the Universe," in which he says that nature is neither friendly nor hostile to man. "It is not endowed with any moral attributes, but is dominated by rigid law." Man has reached a stage on which he can comprehend that law and control it; and therefore his destiny is in his own hands. "Man alone can block the wheels of his own progress."

Optimism, he styles the Thesis; Pessimism, a child of the intellect, are not normal conditions, but are either the products of ignorance of the laws of nature, or of complete subjugation of the masses to the power of the few. They are passive states. The true mental attitude is active and not passive. And the true doctrine is meliorism the perpetual bettering of man's estate.

Optimism, he styles the Thesis, Pessimism, the Antithesis and Meliorism the synthesis of man's relation to the universe.

"He is to regard himself as in full possession of authority to subjugate and appropriate it, to reduce all the powers of nature to his service and to apply all the materials of the universe to his own personal use".

He then sets forth the Christ principle. The true lesson for human society is to look the facts of life squarely in the face, recognize the evils that exist and the possibility of improvement.

There is no room for social (or religious) Micawbers, "whatever turns up, must be turned up."

The logic of science (as of Christianity) is action, and only by busy brains and busy hands can the recognized evils of the world be lessened or removed.

August Forrel also made a contribution through the International monthly upon the subject, "Human Perfectability in the light of Evolution," in which he asks, "Are we not nearing the limit?"

It is only certain choice spirits who have caused the rapid advancement of our civilization. The majority of the people allow themselves to be dragged along more or less like an inert mass. We are today in the presence of human brains which are not only not appreciably increasing in strength or size, but many of which are deteriorating, by the internal destructive factors, effeminacy, luxury, indolence, alcoholism, opium-eating, venereal disease and tuberculosis.

Civilization with its vices and its emotional humanitarianism, is promoting a retrogressive selection.

Robert W. Van Kirk in the Missionary Magazine, January, 1902, makes a plea for the "Survival of the weakest."

He calls attention to Darwin's phrase, "Survival of the fittest" or natural selection. The preservation of favored races in the struggle for life.

He calls attention to Drummond's note that while this is a dominant factor in organic life, there is a second factor, which might be called "the struggle for the life of others."

He then calls attention to the fact that there is no ethical significance in blind instinct struggling for the life of others. The parent who is satisfied simply with the safety of his own children has not risen above the animal instinct.

"It is love as a principle and not love as a sentiment that represents the souls best attainment." The love which has moral character and merits praise is the love that reveals itself in the victory of the higher self over the lower, the triumph of the conscience over the feelings, by sending one forth to struggle for the life of another who is both repulsive and inimical."

"While we were yet sinners Christ died for us."

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Love your enemies and pray for them that persecute you."

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak and not to please ourselves," shows Paul's conception of the Christian philosophy—not "live and let live," but "live and make the weak live." "He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." "Except a kernel of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone."

I have quoted at some length from these authors. Each is dealing with my theme, "The Victorious Life." Two of them deal only with the problem from the intellectual point of view. The third from the spiritual. Two from the viewpoint of evolution. The other from the viewpoint of revelation. Each of them utters profound truths, but only one touches the cord which gives forth the note of hope.

It is true "that man alone can block the wheels of his own progress," but it is false to suppose that he is left alone in winning his moral battles, and must lift himself over every obstacle in his path, by his boot straps. For the mass of mankind, this would be a gospel of despair. Meliorism, without Christ, is nerveless and courageless between its appalling tastes.

The worm of self-indulgence lies at the heart of all civilization, based on evolutionary conceptions, consuming its progressive energy, and turning it back upon itself to languish and die. You may lay bare the hidden seedets of life and urge the cultured to parenthood, in the interests of human perfection, but the incentive fails.

"The love of Christ constraineth us." "When older faiths and social systems are tottering to their fall, Christianity is the one thing that can preserve and redeem individuals and races from certain decay and dissolution."—Griffith-John.

It is worth while to conquer nature and harness her energy to our chariots, and appropriate her materials to our comfort.

It is worth while to know the culture value of all the agencies about us, as well as the destructive forces—to use the one and avoid the other.

UNITED PERSONAL WORKERS' CLASSES PLANNED.

Since the conclusion of the Gipsy Smith Mission, under the auspices of the Laymen's Evangelistic Council, there has been a growing feeling throughout the city that the splendid corps of personal workers and ushers (all of whom were personal workers) should be conserved in some definite form. The Laymen's Council has been urged from various directions to institute classes for training personal workers as well as Bible study classes, and has also been requested to arrange for normal classes to instruct leaders for Bible classes. The members of the Council have taken no action up to the present time, feeling that their province was essentially the cooperation in the holding of evangelistic meetings calculated to win men to Christ, although these suggestions and plans have appealed and do appeal very strongly to the members of the Council individually.

There is cause for great rejoicing, therefore, in the resolutions adopted at the December meeting of the Baptist Brotherhood of Chicago indicating the spirit dominating that organization and which is being felt in practically all the other men's organizations in Chicago. The resolutions are quoted in full and it is likely that the February issue of this paper will announce the final action on the plans:

"At the December meeting of the Baptist Brotherhood of Chicago the following resolution was passed:

"1. This Brotherhood through its Educational Committee invites the other brotherhoods of the city, the Chicago Y. M. C. A. and the Laymen's Evangelistic Council of Chicago to cooperate in organizing a men's class in personal work.

"2. That a course be mapped out to consist of not more than ten or twelve lessons coming once a week.

"3. That a fee of not more than \$1 per member be charged, the funds accruing from such fee to be used in the compensation of the leader and in meeting the expenses of promotion.

"4. That the class be started as soon as possible after the first week in January.

"5. That the Central Y. M. C. A. management be requested to donate the use of the Association Auditorium for such purpose.

"6. That the endeavor be made to secure as a leader the Rev. John Timothy Stone, D. D., pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, who has had successful experience in personal work and whose personality and standing will attract and hold the largest number throughout all denominations.

REVERENCE FOR OUR OWN TIME.

The sale of Bibles shows no falling off this Christmas season. And with the great majority of English-speaking Christian people the only "real" Bible is the version of 1611. They may read occasionally the American Standard Revision, or even the Twentieth Century New Testament, but only by way of commentary on the "actual text" of the Sacred Scriptures. Eighty-five per cent of the Bibles sold day by day at the depository of the Massachusetts Bible So-

ciety are copies of the authorized version. An official of another publishing house says that the most unpopular edition of the Bible ever sold by it was one that was illustrated by photographs of scenes in Palestine as they now are. The pictures were excellent, but it seemed to most buyers a kind of sacrilege to put scenes belonging to actual present life into the Bible. The offense was made worse by the fact that the name of the photographer appeared in the corner of each illustration—a name which can be seen on signs in the streets of American cities. Distance in time and space for many minds appears to clothe the events and sayings with sanctity. Men find it easy to believe that God wrought miracles before the eyes of persons who lived many centuries ago and spoke words into their ears, though it is hardly conceivable to them that God is working wonders now among men and speaking to them words as precious as those hallowed by the passing of thousands of years. It would be a great gain to such persons if they could learn to reverence the world today and mankind in it, believing all to be as really the abode of God now as Sinai and Palestine were in pre-Christian centuries.—Interior.

'Tis not the weight of jewel or plate,

Or the fondle of silk or fur;

'Tis the spirit in which the gift is rich

As the gifts of the wise ones were;

And we are not told whose gift was gold,

Or whose was the gift of myrrh.

—Edmund Vance Cook.

Idle Money



THERE is no excuse
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to remain idle
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depositing it in this bank.

**First Trust and
Savings Bank**

THE LAW vs. THE GOSPEL.**BY JUDGE MCKENZIE CLELAND.**

Most people wonder why the church in this country grows so slowly; why it takes on an average fifty Christians twelve months to add one to their fellowship.

Let me suggest one reason: On the Sabbath the pastors preach the gospel of love and sympathy and forgiveness. On Monday and Tuesday and the rest of the week, the state, through its courts, teaches the doctrine of hate and retaliation and revenge.

On the first day of the week the church, upon the authority of Jesus Christ, tells us that we should do unto others as we would that they should do unto us, while on the other six the state teaches the advisability of "doing" others before they "do" us, and of ruining others lest they attempt to ruin us.

It is apparent that the teaching of the state is having more influence than the teaching of the church, hence the increase in crime and mob violence.

"If a Jew wrong a Christian what is his humility? Revenge. If a Christian wrong a Jew what should his sufrage be by Christian example? Why revenge?"

The time has come when the church must protest in the name of its Founder, who came not to destroy men's lives, but to save them, against this uncivilized, unchristianized and unsuccessful method of dealing with our unfortunate fellow-men.

We can learn much from Jesus' method of dealing with criminals. Whoever saw him in a police court prosecuting anyone? When asked to condemn he placed the offender on probation saying, "Go and sin no more."

If his suggestion, "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone at her" were complied with, how many prosecutions would there be in our criminal courts? Every day we witness the spectacle of men who owe society ten thousand talents seizing by the throat some fellow who owes on hundred pence, and securing his conviction and the ruin of his wife and children by due "administration of justice." If "Justice" is one of the attributes of the Almighty as we are taught, then this thing which bears all the earmarks of revenge and malice is not justice, but rather a disease inherited from our semi-civilized ancestors.

My friends let us administer the cure—not the law alone—not the gospel alone—but the law and the gospel, "now and forever, one and inseparable."

Simple friendship is the most helpful expression of any man's religion. He is most like God who most loves man. Religion at its best is doing deeds of kindness, showing friendship in plain, ever-day ways. It is the laying down of life for men not by dying but by daily living for them. By thoughtfulness, gentle consideration, practical helpfulness, by doing whatever the friend of sinners would do for men, it proves itself born from above.—Henry F. Cope.

Target for Skeptics!

POPULAR BIBLE STUDIES IN

The Marvels of Old Testament History

By JAMES M. GRAY, D. D.

Dean of The Moody Bible Institute

—IN—

The Moody Church

LaSalle and West Chicago Aves.

SATURDAYS AT 8 P. M. JANUARY 8 TO FEBRUARY 12.

January 8—Joshua, or Stopping the Clock of the Universe

January 15—Judges, or God Answering by Signs

January 22—1 Samuel, or Evil Spirits and Good

January 29—2 Samuel, or The Earthly Kingdom Coming

February 5—1 Kings, or Elijah and His Wonders

February 12—2 Kings, or The Folly about Jonah

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON WILL BE TAUGHT AS USUAL AT 7 P. M.

BY MR. JOHN H. HUNTER

This is the winter announcement of the

UNION BIBLE CLASS

which has a membership of about 1,500. It represents some forty different denominations, and over 300 churches, one-third of which are suburban and out of town.

NO CHARGE FOR MEMBERSHIP**EVERYBODY WELCOME****STIRRING GOSPEL SONGS****BRING YOUR BIBLE**

Chicago Temperance News

GRACE E. LEVIN, Editor.

Y. P. C. T. U. Headquarters, 1104 The Temple, Chicago.

THE CHICAGO LAW AND ORDER LEAGUE.

Arthur Burrage Farwell.

Probably fifty murders were committed in the last three years as a result of Chicago's illegal Sunday saloons. This county may care for the families of the murdered and murderers. We ask your help in stopping the cause, namely the illegal Sunday saloons.

Mrs. Ophelia Amigh, Sup't says that "over 87 per cent of the girls in the industrial school at Geneva state (at a certain time) that the dance-halls, concert halls and back rooms of saloons were responsible for their first downward steps." The City of Chicago last year (1908) issued 4,234 Special Bar Permits allowing the sale of malt and vinous liquors at such places as dance-halls, concert halls and picnics from three o'clock in the afternoon until three o'clock in the morning; thus putting into the hands of unscrupulous men the "dagger" with which to slay the virtue of innocent girls. Help us to strike at the causes of this slaughter of innocent girls, namely the notorious dance-halls, concert halls, back rooms of saloons and Special Bar Permits.

Hon. John J. Healy, a former State's Attorney, wrote us that 75 per cent of crime of this county is due to liquor, gambling and houses of ill-repute. \$994,400 is the amount appropriated by the state for the care of delinquents under 21 years of age at Pontiac, Geneva and St Charles for two years. One dollar spent in the enforcement of law in making better conditions for the youth is worth one thousand dollars used in taking care of delinquents and criminals after they are made.

Help us to educate public sentiment to assist in enforcing laws and ordinances and thus prevent crime and delinquency and save vast expenditures of money.

Within 250 feet of the Lante school in the 19th ward, in which there were last October 1,831 children, there are eleven saloons. This might be named "Dante's Inferno." [There are about 260 saloons in this ward and if these eleven mentioned were eliminated, it is possible there would be enough left to supply the actual needs of the population.] Help us to obtain a law to prevent such conditions in this state. When Tennessee provides that there should be no saloon within four miles of a school, it seems very modest to ask of Illinois that there should be no saloon within 250 feet of a school, church or orphan asylum. We tried to obtain such a law at the last Legislature without success, and meanwhile will you not ask our Mayor to use the Mayor's Rule which has been upheld by the Supreme Court in the Rabin case, and eliminate such conditions as surround the Dante school.

We assisted in eliminating 269 names from the poll books of the 13th precinct of the first ward. Help us to protect the ballot box. If it is not

protected, our republic may be destroyed and if we do not protect it, we do not deserve a republic.

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE NOTES.

DR. H. C. NEWTON.

Some Echoes from the National Convention.

"Since January 1, 1909, saloons have been closed at the rate of 40 a day; but that 70 per cent of the area of the United States forbids the licensed liquor traffic tells only a part of the visible results. There are now in the United States 41,500,000 people living in prohibition territory. No power of evil on earth can long withstand this continued onslaught."—From address of National Superintendent P. A. Parker.

Defining the position of the League on local option, National Legislative Superintendent, W. H. Anderson, said: "On the question of local option the League has not compromised itself and will not. It is time we reached a definite understanding on the question of local option. If it is wrong we must quit advocating it and if it is right we must quit apologizing for it. We will advocate local option in wet states as a step toward state-wide prohibition, and we will advocate prohibition in the local option states as a step toward national prohibition."

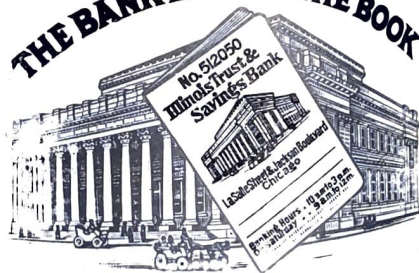
Congressman R. P. Hobson, of Alabama, spoke on "The Drought in the South." Here's a sentence or two: "Twenty-one million of the people of the South are in dry territory, and only

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4 million in wet territory. In other words, we have four-fifths of the Southern people in dry territory and the other fifth shall not have rest or comfort until the South is five-fifths dry." Dr. Paterson, Superintendent of New York. prophesied the day when "No man in all our country shall be willing to make money out of the vices of his neighbor."

Ex-Governor Hanly of Indiana discussed the revolution in the North. Shoulder to shoulder with him stood the prince of Southern orators, Hon. Seaborn Wright, who spoke for the South. Northerners and Southerners, Catholics and Protestants, whites and blacks, Temperance Republicans and Democrats, Socialists and even Prohibitionists echoed the Anti-Saloon League's slogan: "The only solution of the Saloon Problem is No Saloon."

The Chicago Local Option Campaign.

There's but one thing to say to the 1,200 circulators of petitions: "Get busy!" If each of us get only 100 names we'll have enough and plenty to spare. If each of us waits for the other 1199 to get the bulk of the names we'll fail. If one woman can get a thousand names and one man can "pick up" 250 on the street car while on his way to and from work, can't the rest of us average 100 names a piece? Of course we can.

Turn in your petitions as early in January as possible, at 1200 Security Building.

Note the League's instructions carefully. The victory is ours for the asking.

Hill, Strong and Shields make a great trio. Pretty soon Chicago mothers can sing, "The Strong Hill that Shields my Boy."

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

Mary F. Balcomb, General Secretary.

It was with surprise and genuine regret that our Young People learned of the sudden death of Mr. Charles Schoenlaub Friday evening, December 3. Mr. Schoenlaub, at the time Miss Eva Schontz was compelled to give up the work on account of failure in health, stepped nobly to the front and assumed the responsibilities entailed upon the president of the organization. This work he continued until poor health compelled him to resign. Mr. Schoenlaub did not know how to spare himself in this Christian work but continually taxed his strength beyond his powers of endurance. The young people considered Mr. Schoenlaub as one of their staunchest supporters and extend their deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

Are you securing every signature to the Local Option Petition that it is possible for you to secure? This is the work to be done now and let us, as young people, put our shoulders to the wheel and press forward with every ounce of energy there is in us. We want not only to secure enough signatures to barely file the petition by February 1st, but enough to file it in splendid shape. Get on the firing line. The war against the saloon in Chicago has only begun. The enemy is preparing for battle next spring. They are expecting an attack. The president of the Liquor Dealers (Self)-Protective Association in

his bulletin to saloon-keepers urging them to refrain from the practice of giving Christmas presents to their customers, is quoted in the Record Herald as saying: "Save your money; you may need it before the local liquor option fight is over in the spring."

How is your society coming on with their "Foot Slips" of the "Mile of Nickels?" A number of societies have already filled and turned theirs in. Do your best between now and February 8, the evening of the Annual Business Meeting, at which time we wish them all turned in to give our year's accounting.

The banner young people's society, as far as financial support is concerned is that of the Englewood Swedish Mission Church at 49th and Carpenter. Their Young People are contributing every month \$7.80 to the support of the work. The spirit that manifests itself in this way is that spirit, which, if shared by every young people's society in the city, would put this city "dry" and that within a few years.

The Annual Business Meeting comes Tuesday evening, February 8. Every society is entitled to one for every 30 members. Every society should have at least one and no society more than three.

This, coming as it does after the petition for the local option campaign will be filed, gives us the opportunity to put the young people of this city as one into this fight. Be sure you are well represented at this meeting.

Whatever sort of wise men they were before, now they began to be wise men indeed when they set themselves to inquire after Christ.—Matthew Henry.

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WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

Mrs. EMILY M. HILL, President.

The American Saloon.

"The greatest enemy to the progress of the human race in its tragic struggle toward civilization is the American Saloon. No nation that has come to itself, that has reached any degree of self-consciousness, that cares anything for God, man or a decent devil would allow these things to exist, much less collect revenue from them. Just think of it! Ye Christians! Taking money from these horrible dens of vice to build battleships, to dig the Panama Canal, to conserve our National resources; debauching our sons and daughters to make big guns; trading manhood for taxes and maidens for revenue! I search the pages of all past history in vain for so horrible a condition; even the vivid imagination of Dante could not conjure up so loathsome a spectacle. Yet we call ourselves by the name of Christ!—Potomac Record.

Why not every professing Christian start anew and help circulate a petition to get the necessary number of signatures of registered voters to put the question on the ballot, to make Chicago "No License" territory, at the April election.

How easy it will be to get the over 60,000 signatures if every follower of our Lord and Master will help a little.

For the purpose of agitation on this subject the Cook County W. C. T. U. has arranged dates for lectures by Hon. Frank S. Regan of Rockford, the celebrated cartoonist, as follows: January 10, The Ravenswood Baptist Church, 327 Sunnyside Ave.; the 12th, Third United Presbyterian Church, Evans Ave. and 46th St.; 13th Mayfair M. E. Church, West Wilson and North 47th Aves.; Sunday the 16th a Union service, 3 o'clock, Wesley M. E. Church, North Halsted St. between Belden and Webster Aves., and in the evening of the 16th, Diversey Blvd. M. E. Church, Diversey Blvd. and Seminary Ave. It is said of Mr. Regan: "He is one of the few men who combines the skill of the Artist with the Power of the Orator."

The Temperance and Christian women of Chicago are becoming "aroused" over the nullification of State laws and city ordinances by the officials, through their consent, and protection of the "Red Light" district. The W. C. T. U. is planning to have the state and municipal laws published for distribution.

FOREIGN NEWS.

"In France the association between alcohol and crime has long been officially recognized. The direct causative relation between one and the other was pointed out before the Anti-Alcohol Congress in 1898 by the director of the Bureau of Statistics of the French Ministry of Justice. He showed that the consumption of alcohol per capita in France had increased in a single decade from 2.72 liters to 3.83 liters, and that the number of apprehended criminals had increased during the same period from 172,000 to 185,000—with no corresponding increase of population."—The National Prohibitionist, November 11, 1909.

"Dr. Matti Helenius of Helsingfors told of the

struggles for prohibition in Finland. When France refused to loan money to the Finnish Government because of its prohibitory law, it simply turned to England and got the loan without trouble. All newspapers of any influence in the Finnish language are refusing to accept advertisements of alcoholic drinks. In the restaurant and in the house of Finnish students, no kind of alcoholic beverages can be obtained and in no house or club of Finnish workingmen is the serving of alcoholic drinks allowed."—The Connecticut Citizen, November 1909.

"Resolutions passed by the Society of Pathology of Foreign Countries meeting in the Pasteur Institute, Paris:

"We therefore ask the following: 1. That the importation of alcohol be prohibited in our possessions; 2. That all spirits be placed under strict regulations and that their strength be limited; 3. That the number of selling places be limited; 4. That the wages of the natives should never either as a whole or in part be paid in alcohol under severe penalties; 5. That funds be organized and the existing ones increased, for payment of natives in order to avoid the present scandal; 6. That the sale of alcoholic liquors be prohibited especially in cantons for native workers of various kinds." (These resolutions are very much the same as those of the International Committee at the London Congress.)

"During the past eighteen years the Federal Government of Switzerland has dictated the division of the license money (one-tenth of the profits of the alcohol monopoly of each canton is given to movements touching the effects and cause of the alcoholic curse) as follows to thirteen separate movements: Asylums for drinkers 5.3 per cent; Prison work 9.7 per cent; Insane asylums 12.9 per cent; Asylums for epileptics, etc. 5.4 per cent; the sick 4.3 per cent; Abandoned infants 34.2 per cent; Out of work 3.5 per cent; General support 5.2 per cent; Discharged prisoners 2.9 per cent; Transportation of poor 5.3 per cent; Professional instruction 2.7 per cent; The poor 2.6 per cent; Temperance Societies 6 per cent. In 1907, the amount given to Temperance societies was raised to 12.01 per cent, although one canton, Uri, has constantly refused any aid to such work."—Associated Prohibition Press.

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OF THE ONE WHO FITS THEM

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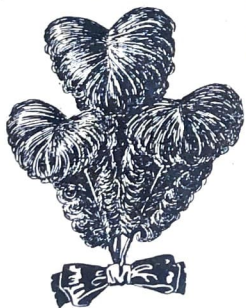
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THE LOOK AND THE RACE

(From a Sermon by Rev. Herbert L. Willett.)

If the hearts of God's people were searched as with candles it would be found that those who are least effective and happy are those who are sheltering some vicious habit or some personal indulgence which renders them incapable of the pure and devoted life which alone can win the highest honors. Such was the pathetic experience of the noblest of Arthur's knights. When he came back disheartened and disappointed from the unsuccessful quest of the Holy Grail Lancelot explained his failure to the king thus:

"But in me lived a sin
So strange, of such a kind, that all of pure,
Noble, and knightly in me twined and clung,
Round that one sin, until the wholesome flower
And poisonous grew together, each as each,
Not to be plucked asunder."

He had counted on his strength, his courage and his skill to win the quest, and had it not been for his hindering blemish he might well have gained the prize. Once or twice he was sure he was about to succeed, only to realize that his efforts were in vain.

But it is the look as well as the preparation that wins the race. "Looking unto Jesus," writes the author. As the ruler of the course stood at its end, the object of the ardent gaze of all the runners, who fixed their eyes on him that they might not swerve from the course, so this great New Testament picture of the Christian race-course insists that the secret of success lies in keeping the gaze fastened upon the face of the King who stands at the goal. Such direct and steadfast-looking on the part of the runners, as they strain toward the point at which rests victory, is required that one's attention may not be diverted to any side interest. There will be voices that call on this hand and on that, voices of admiration, of affection, of curiosity or of criticism. But the runner who pauses for the shade of an instant to remark the opinions of any onlooker has lost the continuity of attention which may spell success. Most men who fail do so through diverted interest. They do not keep "looking unto Jesus."

The classic story of Atalanta is never without significance to him who would win the course. She was the swiftest runner in her native land, and the daughter of the king. She promised her father that she would marry, but only on condition that her suitor should first outstrip her in a race. Many lovers had been defeated and had gone away in humiliation. But Hippomenes, the son of Magareus, knowing her matchless speed, prepared to win her by guile. He was given three golden apples by Venus, and as he ran in the course with the swift-footed princess, he threw an apple on the ground. She not doubting that she could win both the glittering fruit and the race, stooped and picked it up, and then easily regained her place in the contest. A second apple was thrown, and a second time the princess turned aside for the trophy and overtook her rival. But just before the goal was reached the wily suitor tossed the

third apple, and the princess, disdainful of defeat, took the hazard of picking up the final golden prize, and missed the goal by a single pace. Even the swiftest runner can only be sure of success by keeping his eye upon the face of Him who stands at the end of the way.

This look to Jesus is an uplifted gaze. It is the fixing of thought, affection, and resolution upon the life and word of Him who waits with the crown of rejoicing. No downward glance along the pathway will suffice. It is only the uplifted heart, following the upward glance to the face of the King, that can rouse the final energies of the otherwise outworn runner, for the race is long and arduous. It must be run with patience, which means with steadfastness and unflagging courage. It takes every energy, and up to the final moment there must be no abatement of speed or concentration.

And that look into the face of Jesus is sure to meet his answering glance of love and welcome. For he has been over that same race-course, and from his body and face have dropped the streams of sweat and blood that marked the agony of his redemptive course. He was the great "forerunner," and knows all the hardships of the way. He has heard every wayside voice that lifts its cry of discouragement, invective of scorn. He has suffered the taunts and jests of the careless onlookers. But he has finished the race in glory, and stands now waiting to see his brethren as they strain onward to win the prize which he first won, and which he now stands ready to bestow in turn. For that prize of faith he was the first successful contestant. And now he waits to complete the enterprise by conferring the honors of victory. He is thus the Author and Finisher of our faith. And for the sheer joy of pointing out this only method of successful struggle, he endured all the sufferings of the way, not avoiding the cross nor evading the shame, and is now King of kings and Lord of lords at the end of the course.

Such reflections upon the experience of Jesus as the first great runner of the heavenly race should assure all those who would follow after that the prize is not to the swiftest nor the strongest alone, but to all those who obey the rules and enter with true devotion into the contest. In this fact Paul the apostle gloried. At the moment he was about to be offered up, to be poured like a libation, he cried in triumph, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteousness judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but to all those who have loved his appearing." Even the grave itself is no obstacle to the successful running of the course. Indeed, above the grave the face of the King may be seen all the more distinctly. Troubles and griefs cannot defeat the spirit that keeps to the contest with full purpose to win the crown. No sorrow can daunt and no disaster can discourage. These heartening lines of Keble were quoted by Mrs. Arnold of Rugby to Dean Stanley after her husband's funeral:

"Then cheerily to your work again.

With hearts new-braced and set
To run, untired, love's blessed race,
As meet for those who face to face
Over the grave their Lord have met."

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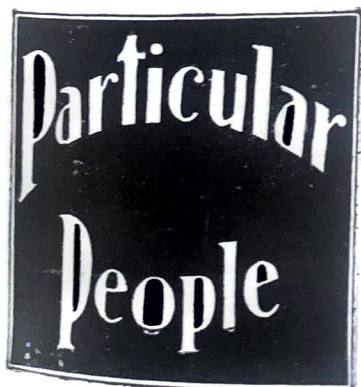
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THOSE SERMONS.

By Wilfred T. Grenfell.

At this time of year most of the families are gathering towards the trading posts, to settle up with the trader for the summer's catch. Whatever is owing to them, after they have turned in their salted salmon and codfish, is taken up in food and other necessary supplies for the winter. This season had been a very hard one. Foxes and other fur-bearing animals had been scarce in winter, and few of the trappers had done more than pay their advances of last fall. This failure had been followed by a poor salmon fishery in the Bay, but to wind up with, a rough, stormy summer had not only caused the loss of many large schooners outside the Bay in the heavier waters of the North Atlantic, but had continued so rough that the small boats belonging to the Baymen had had little chance to retrieve their fortunes with the codfish by going to the outside islands in pursuit of them.

The outlook for the long winter that was already looming ahead was gloomy, and I found my good friend, the trading agent, in a restless mood. "It's all very well being stationed here, Doctor," he said, "when there is enough to eat, and even a little pinch from the wolf won't hurt some of the grown up men, but I tell you it's hard to see the children going hungry." "It seems to me," I replied, "that it will be more than an ordinary pinch some of them will get this time if something isn't done, for I met even so good a man as Fred Stewart going up to his winter trapping grounds with not enough to last his big family till halfway to Christmas, and he certainly won't get much fur before then to help him out."

It so happened that very morning I had been standing in the store also while Willie Malcolm had been laying out the meager advance allowed him—for he had no balance coming to him, and his only assets were his debts. I had watched him hesitating between a warm pair of socks for the bare legs of his little girl "Dollie" and another pound or two of oleomargarine—he hadn't anything like enough for winter—and of course there isn't any other shop where you can buy anything.

It just went to my heart even to think of that sweet little face being pinched with hunger (and I'm not her father)—I could not bear to see her shivering with cold while I went spending money on things I didn't need—besides, how could you ask God to bless and take care of the child and then leave her naked while you ate candies. Poor Willie, he had kept taking up the stockings and putting them down again, and then he would look at the open tub of oleo—of course Dollie need not go out all winter—she could sit behind, or even under the stove, as I have seen other poor children doing. But then his little girl would get weak and pale, and no one can tell what might happen then, for that is the forerunner so often of swellings and running sores and of death even—all strange to them, but we know to be due to tubercle.

But then if her father took the stockings he couldn't help feeling a kind of additional pity and cold that if they had no fat food they might

even not live through it at all, and anyhow he himself could not be fit to hunt properly and face the exposures involved. I have known Willie Malcolm ever since he brought home his young wife, and as his little family came along I have been so glad to see the plucky fight he has made to keep independent. This morning he was so long making up his mind the storekeeper went off to look after another settler who had come in to trade. I knew quite well Willie wouldn't hesitate a minute if it was only a question of a luxury for himself and stockings for his little girl, because he had recently given up his pipe, the one and only companion of his long, lonely trails, so that he might throw in the few cents he saved by doing so. So I couldn't help feeling a kind of additional pity for him—indeed, I had to look out of the window and rub my eyes at the sun, or the thick-headed storekeeper might have thought I was going to cry.

Wasn't it just worth living to be able to turn round again, when I'd got the dazzle out of my eyes, and ask Willie if he'd mind helping me choose a Christmas present for his "little girl," and when he said he "thought Dollie would like a pair of stockings," wasn't it grand to have "just enough" money to buy the two pairs? "Because, you know, Dollie would just love to have a pair to give Harry." This is one of those sermons any one can preach. Sermons aren't hard things to make, you know, if we really do love one another.

But when the storekeeper said to Willie, "You can take the whole of that tub along, Willie—I guess some one will pay some day," I believe I saw Willie trying to swallow something. But somehow I couldn't see very clearly either just then—people are silly, aren't they? But I think it was better far than buying heaps of candies. Don't you? And I know I felt as if I could easily walk ten miles when I got outside the store. Everybody loves preaching that kind of sermons.

Then again, there was Allan Wolfrey, also—with no less than eight children. He had been fishing outside the Bay, and he had done fairly well. * * * But here was Allan's boat alongside the wharf as I walked along, and the poor fellow looking as if he was in trouble. I called out to his wife, who was climbing out of the boat with a bundle in her arms with baby No. 8 in it. "Good day, Susie. I thought you would be away up the Bay by now: what's brought you back?" "Allan had an accident, Doctor. He upset his boat and lost his gun and a lot of things—it might have been worse, thank God! for it was very rough, and he was holding onto the bottom of the boat for an hour before they got him. Molly Davis saw the boat upset. There was only Allan in it, and she called her boys, and they got a boat out and went and got him, thank God!" she added, and a tear trickled down her cheek.

(If any one is moved by this touching story of Dr. Grenfell to aid one phase of his work, the American Labrador Branch of the Needlework Guild of America, Room 201, 14 Beacon street, will be glad next spring to receive wool, socks and stockings to send North.—Editors.)
Congregationalist.